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# AVIATION

*The Oldest American Aeronautical Magazine*

PRINCIPAL *Mergers AND Consolidations*

*Bakelite AND Similar Products IN AIRCRAFT*

REGULATING AIR COMMERCE—*Engineering*

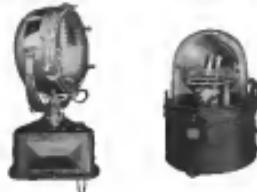




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# WHAT HAPPENED IN 1929



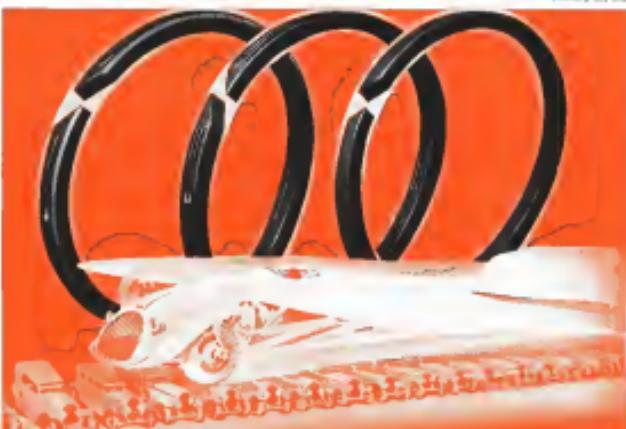
LAST month ended Aviation's greatest year. This month starts one still greater. Wright's part in record-breaking 1929 is significant. Here are a few achievements which put this out and which will set Wright's pace for the year ahead. ENDURANCE: the "Question Mark," the "Fleet Worth," the "City of Cleveland," and the "Angeline." DISTANCE—over sea from America to

Spain with Williams and Yancey. DISTANCE—over land: Coast-to-Coast non-stop round trip with Mamer and Walker. ADAPTABILITY: 80% of possible prize money at the Cleveland Air Races. SPEED: 229.8 m.p.h. with Douglas Dixie. EFFICIENCY: 7 out of 10 first places in the Ford Reliability Tour. STAMINA: to the South Pole and back with Admiral Byrd!



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THE OLDEST AMERICAN AERONAUTICAL MAGAZINE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION . . . EDITORIAL STAFF

EDWARD F. WARNER, Editor

Volume 1 . . . January 25, 1930 . . . Number 1



### The Postmaster General Speaks His Mind

THE SUSPICION that Postmaster General Brown is inherently unfriendly to aviation, and deserves of fading some recent rumors of trifling the air mail, cannot survive a careful reading of his recent address before the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce. He even implies regret that he has not the legal authority to revise contract rates upwards in some cases. He has approached the problem as a business man and with the desire to get it into a consonant business footing.

It is perfectly manifest that the present scale of compensation is absurd. Some companies are being generously overpaid by the measure either of the general average return or of operating costs, while others are in constant danger of financial starvation. The method of compensation itself is inherently anomalous in that it bids aside everything dependent upon ability of a prospective contractor to estimate fairly in advance the amount of mail that will be sent over a route without even knowing what competing and parallel lines the Post Office Department might later establish during the period of his contract. Even if the contractors of old did not compel a new negotiation of new rates in connection with any extension of the original long-term contract, experience has made it obvious that modifications both in rate and in method are necessary to do equal justice among the contractors.

The Postmaster General has made a concrete proposal, calling for new legislation. He suggests that the domestic air mail be put on the same status as that for surface carriers. He proposes that payment be made in terms of distance flown rather than of weight of mail carried, and that the payment per mile should vary

with the load capacity which the contractor is required to have available for mail.

On this last point his address is a little vague. He says, "A schedule of compensations should be set up providing for the payment of perhaps thirty cents per mile for a weight space of one hundred pounds, with increased compensation per mile for increased weight spaces". The word "space" is full of confusion. It may mean that the compensation to be paid is absolutely fixed in advance, and is dependent solely on the size of the airplanes used, or it may imply, what is far more reasonable from our view but seems less probable from the language chosen, that the mileage rate will be augmented in proportion with the weight actually carried.

If the second interpretation could be taken at the correct one, we would find ourselves in virtually perfect agreement with the Postmaster General, but believing that the same result could be accomplished in another way and without new legislation. The sliding scale already employed between New York and Chicago furnishes the answer to the problem. Compensation can perfectly well be paid in terms of postage, if the rate is varied with the load actually carried on each run. Manifestly, there should be no maximum limit upon the amount of mail that may be turned over to the contractor. Those who purchase air mail stamps and affix them to their letters will determine that point. Manifestly, also, there should be no removal of the incentive for the contractor to go fast and collect mail bags. The air mail has been built up to its present dimension in large part, to be sure, by the campaign made by the

Post Office, but they have been valuably supplemented by the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce and other national aeronautic organizations and by the private endeavours of most of the contractors. The danger of indifference on the contractor's part if his payments are to be made in terms of postage fares is clear. We have never believed, and do not believe now, that it would be in any sense responsible for an impartial board of experts on air transport, having nothing to do with any of the operating companies, to serve in a basis of compensation on a scaled postage basis, to take into account the probable amount of traffic as far as it could be foreseen, the inaccuracy of the route, the probability of marked seasonal variation in demands on the service, and all the other factors involved, and to produce a formula that would be fair to all the contractors and that would hold out to the Post Office Department the hope of ultimate financial equilibrium.



### The Place for Unity

**T**HE CENTER of gravity of aeronautical interest has located in Latin America. The air map of the United States has been too much developed to permit that we turn our attention abroad, and our operators have looked first to the South. There they have met the French and the Germans, also reaching out for a foothold, while British, Spanish, and Italian look on with quiet but keen the less keen interest. In those millions of square miles of territory of the Western Hemisphere in which Spanish or Portuguese are recognized as the mother tongue the foundations of a bitter international rivalry are being laid.

Competition is intense. It will not be merely international. Already two American companies have reached the same terminals, and their planes will fly an extended paralleling of each other's routes. Competition is itself to be welcomed, not feared, but it should be a constructive competition. It should not exclude operation. It should take the form of a rivalry in improvement of service, not of mutual attack by names-calling, by circulation of rumors, or by political intrigue.

These observations stand internationally as well as between nations of the same state. The cry of partition is now and again raised to rally all hands to the feasible effort to triangle the fliers into the cart. Unfortunately, to put the case upon no grounds more specious than those of pure self-interest, the process of destroying foreign competition by direct attack is likely to involve the incidental destruction of the business over which the competition is being waged. The foreign competitor is here, and he could not be excluded by ignoring him.



### Forming Travel Habits

**A**T LAST America has air rates as low as rail rates, and in some cases lower. A western operator has recently lowered the one way fare between Los Angeles and San Francisco, California, to \$25. First class train fare with lower berth pullman fare, two

The crossing of an international boundary does not suspend the operation of economic laws. The financial success of an air line in Venezuela or in the Argentine depends upon essentially the same factors as in California or Connecticut—but yet, the finding of an income sufficient to counterbalance the expenses of operation in America has no large subsidies to offer upon military grounds, and the income must be truly commercial. The appeal to the passenger or shipper can be increased and the amount of business done increased just as much as to operators. French, American, German or whatever they may be re-organized their schedules and their traffic regulations and simplify the exchange of business as much as possible. Operating efficiency can be enhanced, and the day of economic self-sufficiency can be brought nearer, by mutual agreement which will assure a reasonably balanced of the load handled. For one company to have the contract for the Northbound mail between two points and another for that Southbound, each line hypothetically carrying something approaching full capacity in one direction and running empty in the other, would be preposterous. It would be too wasteful to be endured.

Equally objectionable is the duplication or imposition of ground facilities. The doctrine of the entrenched airport is not deeply ingrained in the repertoire of Latin America. Operating lines have to create their own fields, lighting arrangements, radio services, and even weather reporting systems in many cases. The speed and efficiency with which some of them have proceeded to do so is worthy of the highest praise. But they should be vigorous effort to arrive at a fair basis for the common use of such facilities by all established and responsible operators. It is just as easy to go below South of the Equator as it is "North of 35" or anywhere in between. There is no concession of wisdom in a quid pro quo arrangement, and there need be no surrender of competitive positions in an agreement among competitors not to hold three airports to take care of a traffic that would impose only a light load upon the facilities of a single one.

There has little ground for serious alarm as yet, but mistakes would be easy to make, and in the international field they are hard to retrieve. They will be avoided only if all concerned make up their minds that they will be as willing to work with their competitors as against them, and thereafter maintain a vigilant lookout for opportunities to join in understandings for the general good.



Rate and tips figured in, amounts to \$26.50, or an actual saving of 25¢ for the man who rides the plane. Another company, in the central southwest, has undertaken to match the railroad fares dollar for dollar. Admittedly these rates cannot pay the operators of the air lines a profit at present and some interesting conclusions develop.

The first and most important is that such radical rate slashes prove to us that air transport as operated at present has not yet proved as economic success. People will not pay more than a definitely Justified premium to ride the air lines, and our only hope is to increase traffic, install larger equipment, run on more frequent schedules, and thereby to reduce overhead so as to make a profit possible at the lower rates. Aviation is still seeking to amply prove that the transportation of persons by air is a sound business operation.

The recently reduced rates, in California and other parts of the country, have stimulated traffic heavily, but there has been no overwhelming rush to ride the air lines. Granting the added convenience of travelling more rapidly by air and the great saving in time and money to business men that is thus accomplished, it is still apparent that those who travel are not in the habit of doing so by bus, bus, or train that even when money can be saved by taking in the air the air lines must be prepared to continue for an appreciable period of placating at some risk and sacrifice before such traffic may be expected to grow at a proper rate.



### Mutual Protection for Pilots

**T**HE AIR is full of ruses of pilots' unions. They are being talked of in the East, upon the Pacific Coast, and in the Middle West. Professional organizers are busy in the field.

So far as we are aware these are the first explicit attempts of them. There have been pilot associations of various types. There have been napalm pilot unions, but those have been informal and loose, and have been started without creating lasting union. The present proposals, right though they are, point at something distinctly novel is the way of organization.

We do not estimate that an organization in union form can do any particular harm, whether it does any good or not, except that for a time it might waste a certain amount of money for its members of unwisely ad hocated. Airplane pilots taken as a whole, especially those who have attained the dignity of position with transportation lines, are far too intelligent to remain with any association which does not actually serve their interests, and they are well able to protect themselves against the machinations of self-seeking working delegates—if that term can be accurately applied to anyone concerned with flying.

Can a union be helpful? The answer depends upon exactly what is meant by a "union." A professional organization for the development and maintenance of professional standards and for the exchange of information on professional problems of unquestionable benefit. There should be some organization to represent the collective opinion of the great body of airplane pilots in dealing with such matters as the standards enunciated by the Department of Commerce.

Such an organization, like an engineering society of an airmen's league, inevitably concerns itself to some extent with the relationship between its members and their employers. It would be very properly concerned if any employer were insisting that pilots adopt courses either method or dangerous, but that is not all that the term union connotes to the understanding of the average man. He thinks under the idea of an association concerning itself primarily, if not solely, with the improvement of wage levels and labor conditions.

The labor union movement in industry has derived much of its strength from, and rests its legal case largely upon, the comparative lack of flexibility of labor as a commodity. The working man finds it as easy matter to drop his employment in one town and take it up in another, perhaps in a remote city. He has difficulty in informing himself upon the conditions there. Fearing that he may be turning to unknown evils worse than those for expensives, he clings even to unsatisfactory employment, and seeks an organization to make it better.

The pilot of an airplane is in a very different case. By the nature of his employment he is widely travelled. From the negligence and slovenliness that that employment requires, it can be taken for granted that he keeps in touch with conditions away from home. The turnover in his employment is rapid enough, especially at the present time when the demand for pilots is steadily increasing, so that any general wage-cutting policy would have a disastrous effect upon the available supply of flying personnel upon whom the operating companies depend. Finally, the qualified pilot has a half a dozen different fields of employment open, and there is free interchange between transport flying, piloting for private owners, teaching, and various brands of aerial service.

There need be no need for a union. If widespread discontent should arise for a sufficient organization to uphold the pilot's interest, the operators of aviation would almost surely have themselves to blame. Anything in the way of industrial blackmail, or of widespread agreement to depress wages arbitrarily, or of taking advantage of the necessities of individual pilots, would be the seed from which counter-action would be sure to grow. The two parties can work in perfect harmony and settle their relations in direct negotiation if the pilot and his employer both take harmony as a fundamental aim. The pilot is not merely a hired man in a virtually fixed state, he is a vital part of the operating organization. His success is his success, and in many cases he is as effective in the making.

# THE AERONAUTICAL USES OF *Similar Products*

By JOHN F. HARDECKER

**B**AKELITE is a synthetic product formed from formaldehyde and phenol or carbolic acid. By a special process, carbolic acid and formaldehyde react to form Bakelite, which has the distinctive property of becoming insoluble, infusible and very hard, strong, and resistant, after being subjected to heat. In the pure form it is transparent and amber like in appearance, and is known as Bakelite Resinoid. Though Bakelite is a component part of many products such as varnishes, lacquers, encaustic and cement, the airplane industry is concerned primarily with its use in the form of Laminated Bakelite.

Laminated Bakelite is the laminated product resulting from the processing of certain grades of fabric and paper with this resin like raw material. Laminated Bakelite products, in the form of sheet, rod, tubing and molded products are made under the following trade names: Micarta, Celcon, Parvane, Fibrene, Tectite, Delite, Phenolic and Spunbond Bakelite. Micarta contains paper or cloth, Celcon is made of layers of impregnated woven



The progressive stages of the molding process which is done in a mold as each of the aromatic bodies

weight, with a density approximately one half that of aluminum, yet moisture, grease or oil cannot warp or sour it. In resistance to heat, cold, rain, ice, snow and salt air make it ideal for aeronautical use. It is extremely wear resistant, and makes silent contacts when used with moving parts.

While it is used in all forms (sheet, rod, tubing and molded) in the aircraft industry, its greatest current application is in the form of molded marine parts. Thus used, it plays a significant part in aeronautical production. Therefore it will be well to consider these resultant applications in detail, later, proceeding with the aeronautical applications, as manifested directly in the airplane propeller, sheet, rod, tubing, and molding.



fabric. Fibrene is Bakelite impregnated with asbestos, and Delite is a product using Bakelite and sheets of tough paper.

Laminated Bakelite is non-inflammable, tough, strong, resilient, resistance to heat, cold, acids, chemicals, forces and high electrical voltages. As it is chemically inert, it does not deteriorate with age. Being a laboratory product, it is uniform and can be held to a given standard for any particular purpose. It is also extremely light

## *Bakelite AND*



The 401 Photograph showing the method of welding the angles of the propeller hub to the main body of the Bakelite structure.

enough to such service, require that extreme care be exercised throughout the manufacturing process to assure uniform and high grade material, perfect balance of the blades, and perfect fit of the blades to the hub. Obtaining the uniformity and smoothness of manufacture with a product of such irregular shape presents some problems extending both to the die-making and to the machine.

If the manufacturing process has been developed so that the propeller can be made in the machine shop [Fig. I] through the progressive stages of the molding operation, the work being done in a little in two stages. The blade is then set up in a lathe ready for the rough machining operation. The final process consists of machining the hub end of the blade to fit the steel hub already referred to. When the blade is machined, a hole is drilled in the root to be used for fine adjustment of balance. This is necessary to balance the blade horizontally.

In balancing the blade horizontally, it is placed in a balancing machine [Fig. II]. In place of a second blade a fixture is used which costly compensates for the cor-

*The airplane manufacturer, due to the workings of the inflexible law of minimum weight for maximum strength, must of necessity study each detail of his design not only in terms of dimensional proportions, but also as to the material or materials best suited to each particular purpose. This naturally requires an exactitude of knowledge extending into the intimate technical refinements and possibilities of each material, and generally requires continual detail material study, even after*

*a given basic plane design has been established. Among the most interesting of the newer materials which are finding increasing application in aircraft manufacture are Bakelite and the other synthetic resin products made from it. In the accompanying article Mr. Hardecker deals in detail with Laminated Bakelite in the form of molded marine parts, Bakelite Resinoid products, miscellaneous molded products, and the methods of utilizing and working Laminated Bakelite.*

and predetermined weight of a single blade. The blade and fixture are set on a horizontal plate and balance is obtained by adding or removing weight to, or from, the drilled hub. To check the vertical balance of the complete propeller, two matched blades are set up in the balancing machine.

The method of setting the angle of the blades is very simple (Fig. III). The blade is pivoted to a vertical axis on a carefully leveled table, and the angle is set by the use of an adjustable protractor. This angle is set across the flat side of the blade at a specified range point. The angles of both blades are set, they are firmly fixed to the steel hub, and the complete propeller is ready for test and assembly (Fig. IV).

The high efficiency of these propellers is due to their stiffness and the aerodynamically correct form that can be realized. These blades are tipped in order to attain a maximum of abuse. Moisture, salt spray or oil has no effect on them, and sand or stones will not reflect them. Because of the smoothness of this material, there is no influence of the propeller to crystallize. Change of temperature and humidity has no effect upon their material.

One of the obtainable features of these propellers is the possibility of changing the blade angle, and so the pitch, by means of the cleopatras. Adjustments can be made with an ordinary wrench. A low pitch setting will allow the engine to turn up fast, permitting quick take-off. This is particularly desirable when flying in a small craft. A high pitch setting can be used if it is desired to hold the aircraft speed down at full throttle for fuel economy. If high cracking speed is desired, the blades can be given an intermediate setting. These propellers have a reinforced hub to allow pitch to change the pitch on the field.

These propellers, because of their fibrous construction, absorb vibrations due to thrust and surge irregularities. They are, therefore, especially desirable on planes having multiple engines with overlapping propellers, at where there are other obstructions to the air stream which cause fluttering. The absorbing of vibrations leads to another desirable characteristic—quietness. Due to the

low density of their material, a propeller for a 150 hp. eng. weighs only 54 lb.

Micarta airplane polycys, contributing to the success of practically every outstanding aviation feat during the past few years, have been adopted as standard equipment by commercial aircraft manufacturers on the basis of safety, light weight and low cost. They have been



FIG. IV—The completed propeller ready for assembly.

adopted as AN and SAE Standards for aeronautical use. These polycys cause less wear on the propeller than does polyamide or other materials. This feature results in a decrease of cable replacements and is a greater factor of safety. In addition, these polycys do not develop the flat spots or cavities in metal types. Self-lubricated bearings are molded into the polycy, thereby eliminating the need for lubrication. They are available in a wide range of sizes, suitable for every aeronautical need.

Nicarta fairleads are designed to guide the control wires in flight. They prevent wear on the cable which otherwise would drag on the frame cross-braces, etc. The fairleads consist of two halves, etc., in a snap bracket, and which are joined together with a simple form of soft copper wire. This permits of the replacement of worn or broken fairleads without the necessity of disassembling the control cables. They are available in two sizes, which cover the normal range of control cable diameters.

On the most recent developments of these phenolic products is the reinforced hubbed made from a laminated fabric base material that is particularly well suited to withstand the severe service to which turbines are subjected. These hubheads are extremely strong and light. One single, weighing approximately 4.5 lb., is fitted with a self-lubricating bearing, while another style is furnished with a bearing bearing designed for the usual type of shaft vibration in which grease is introduced to the bearing through the shaft.

Hinge bearings are made with a finely divided dark carbon fiber base. They are provided with soft mounting ears and are used on all cleopatra polycys. These require larger bearings, as used in the micarta and aluminite bearing as a substrate for resin. They are lighter than the ordinary metal hangers and are very strong mechanically.

Bakelite, instead, the original transparent Bakelite material is also used to a limited degree for airplane parts. The Keystone Aircraft Corporation uses this material in making its sight gauge because the phenolic amber color eliminates glare and eyestrain, is very durable and can be machined and assembled more satisfactorily than glass. Control stick handles of richly colored Bakelite Resinoid are used to lend a distinctive touch to the decorative scheme.

While many of the preceding false base airplane products described in detail were solid products, there is another class of general mold products which find aeronautical applications. These employ the original material to which are added thin fibers in wood flour for general use, asbestos for heat resistance and graphite for dry bearings. Metal parts may be embedded in the molding piece at the time of molding, thus saving much labor and

expense over the method of assembling this work by hand.

Model Bakelite is used in aircraft engine magneto housing, drive belts, cylinder heads, propeller rotors, cogs and spools. Pure glass resins are made of Bakelite and has, and the gear stock in aircraft is molded Bakelite. It is also used for the knobs on engine control lever units. Molded Bakelite is finding increasing application for aircraft instrument cases, and one manufacturer uses it to replace the former metal casting of his half blank in diecast.

The airplane industry finds a multitude of applications of laminated bakelite in parts manufactured at the own place. While these items are not as significant as the mold products, they indicate a range of possibilities which is constantly being added to, as this material becomes better established in the aeronautical industry.

Laminated Bakelite has been found exceptionally well suited for use as a lining for engines and cockpits, since it is sound proof, dense, impervious to moisture, fire re-

istant, and has been used for aircraft wheels. Laminated Bakelite is further used as filters to remove greater bearing area, as in an elevator torque arm built up of aluminum alloy plates, using two metal faces to support each other and housed the end, with the Bakelite filter between. Spunmetal and woven resins have also been used to every fold form and marine corrugated up a round frame strut, the entire assembly being encased with sheet metal formed around the struts, being secured by rivets. Bakelite laminated washers, lock plates and bushings, find a number of uses in airplane fabrication, and bushings have been used for aircraft wheels.

**NO MATTER** how desirable the other properties of a material, its ability to be worked and machined in the shop is of extreme significance to the airplane manufacturer in his choice of materials. Bakelite may be machined in the shop in a manner similar to metal, bearing in mind that good results depend upon a reasonable observance of any practice peculiar to Bakelite. The following detailed observations should be found helpful.

**Turning.** Bakelite in act up in the lathe in the same manner as metal with metals, except for the caution that care should be taken in gripping up holding in the chuck to obtain the proper grip of the tool, as it is more brittle than metals. The use of a lathe tool is not desirable, and whenever possible, it should be turned to size in a single cut. In case the finishing cut should require a fine cut, however, it is preferable to take a light cut and regrind a new form diameter.

The piece should be turned at a peripheral speed about 25 per cent faster than that necessary for cast iron. It is generally advisable to use a wide nose tool with a coarse feed. The tool should have a large clearance, but no side. The tool should be sharpened frequently, as it is inclined to dull quickly.

**Drilling & Threading.** Drilling in best accomplished with a hot, fast and the use of high carbon and drills without lubricant. To make certain of a clean hole on the outer side, it is desirable to clamp the Bakelite sheet being drilled to a larger wood board in the part where the hole breaks through, thus eliminating any possibility of chipping. If the drill is properly ground, the hole will be true and smooth but about .005 in. off center. Drills should be ground slightly off center to obtain a hole which is the same size as the drill. The life of a drill before regrounding is highly variable, but it should not exceed a half hour. Per about of  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. drill speeds may range from 2,500 to 10,000 r.p.m. To prevent excessive heating of the drill it should be withdrawn quickly from the material. Several drill manufacturers are now making drills especially for Bakelite work.

**Machined Bakelite** is machined to various special shapes for use as spacers and filters in metal plane construction. It may be used as spacers in metal wire construction, and in places in the structure where two plates join in such a way that the included angle is too small to permit riveting in the individual plates, and it is necessary to provide a fillet for thorough riveting. Bakelite blocks have been used in metal bell construction for water tightness by insertion in the longitudinal channels of the water-tight frames. They are used for this latter purpose because wood blocks would invite corrosion to contact with aluminum alloy, while aluminum alloy blocks would be of greater weight.

With extra clearance on the edge of the flaps to reduce friction and prevent over-rotation.

It is possible to use an ordinary counterbore, but due to the rapid wear and difficulty of regrounding, a modified drill may be used to greater advantage. The drill should be ground to the proper angle for counterboring with very little clearance. For threading, ordinary taps and dies are suitable, using lubricant, as with metal.

**Sawing.** In using band or circular saws, the same



FIG. V—Bakelite insulator being Bakelite insulator being used to reinforce wall paneling for the doors and walls.

spuds should be used as far back woods or fibre, with the caution that saws must be sharpened and used often. Circular saws should be made of hard steel, but not too tough in proportion of iron. Number of teeth and amount of air should be governed by the smoothness of the cut required. For extremely rough edges saws should be hollow ground, and should be used without set.

Needs of the work will dictate the frequency of sharpening. In stock of certain grades and thickness, a hand saw will cut effectively for two hours, and a circular saw will need re-sharpening after twenty minutes. Where a large amount of sawing at once, a filing can done for each teeth will be found a great convenience and time saver.

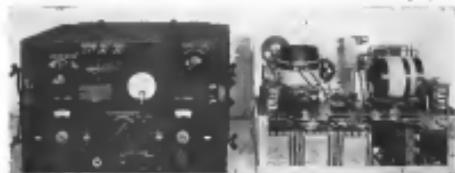
**F**OR STRAIGHT cuts a hand saw with one inch as root diameter, for scroll work, 4 in. width. The usual hand saw has a 36 in. diameter wheel, and should run at about 4,000 fpm (feet per minute) or from 280 to 300 c.p.m. at 51 spms per inch and 20-gauge thickness it usual.

The standard circular saw used is of 10 in. diameter working at 2,200 rpm—on stocks 1 in. or less in thickness. For greater thicknesses larger diameters up to 16 in. are employed. A 16 in. saw runs at about 1,500 rpm. For general use a 14 in. saw, thickness from  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. to 2 in., with 110 to 120 teeth, and turning at a speed of 2,500 rpm, is recommended. On thin material a coping saw can be used to advantage in the same way that it is used for wood. The saw will usually be good for only one cut-out. Hack saws may be used the same as in my metal.

Where an exact cut-out of irregular outline is to be removed from heavy stock, a band-saw is preferable to a coping saw, for making small steel template in lies of sawing. This consists of scrapping the casting on the sheet, chipping successive holes closely around just outside the outline, and then breaking it out successively.



Bandsaw handles material used in Pioneer aircraft instruments



Blades are used on band saws like this right showing one of band-saws in action and left some

between holes by the use of a wood chisel. The part is then finished by hand filing, or by the filing machine.

**M**illing and Planing. In milling, high speeds and coarse feed are desirable so that the cutter throws the chips away from the work. Wherever possible, it is advisable to remove all the material in one cut. Side cutting cutters are advisable in the majority of projects, clearance oil will prevent the burning of tools, and may be necessary. The cutting angle of the mill, if crossed with a slight rake, will give better results. As in the case of filing, so also in planing, a bush speed and coarse feed should be used. A deep cut, not less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  in., should be taken.

**P**unching and Shaving. A plain punch and die may be used on stock up to  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. thickness. Dies must be kept sharp and maximum clearance allowed between punch and die. For heat treatment, the material should be heated thoroughly and quenched in an oven or on a stone table at a temperature of  $200^{\circ}$  F.

It is frequently necessary to locate a square headed plate beside the punch operation.

Shears between  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. and 2 in. in thickness should be blunted and then applied in a shaving die. The shears should be blunted and used. Edges of the shaving cutter should have a slope of about 45 deg.

The shaving operation is not recommended for preparing clean from heavy stock. It is preferable that they be sawed and then turned on a lathe. The shaving operation on thick stock has a tendency to "dilute" the lathe and to weaken the structure.

**S**awing. Bandsaw, Laminated, which it is to be shaved, should be bound [120° F. to  $300^{\circ}$  F., depending on grade], to prevent chipping at the edge. Saw teeth are preferably in holding the cut so that during the transfer from heating place to press, it will be held, as in passing, to have these teeth engaged.

**S**urface Finishing. A drill surface finish for ornamental purposes can be accomplished satisfactorily by rubbing with fine sand, and finishing with oil. A dull cast finish can be secured by rubbing with No. 0 emery cloth, and finishing with No. 00 of the same material. The use of sandpaper in place of emery or garnet paper is desirable for radio parts, because particles of the latter materials might adhere and effect the electrical properties.

## DETERMINING THE

# Effect of Lightning

## UPON THE AIRPLANE

By WALTER E. BURTON

**L**IHTNING . . . word is becoming increasingly important in the aviation world. To the pilot, it signifies something to avoid. To the passenger, it labels one of the possible hazards he faces when making a trip by air. To the airplane manufacturer, it represents a kind of mysterious factor which he probably ought to take into his consideration when designing a plane. To the insurance companies, it is a factor governing heavy rates. To the airline operator, the word has a dollars-and-cents meaning, for one disaster in which lightning is reported to have played a part, whether it did or not, is almost certain to result in a loss of bookings, for a time at least.

The thundercloud is undoubtedly a region to avoid today, yet travel of the future will not be interrupted by storms if it is not. Of the two main sources of danger in a thunderstorm, lightning and wind, the former is likely to be the more noxious, whereas the latter undoubtedly is the more dangerous.

No one, at the present time, can venture to make a sweeping deduction concerning the part lightning plays in flying. There simply is not enough available scientific data to present a definite statement as to the degree of hazard that lightning provides. There is almost no accurate information about the actual existence of a magnetic field around lightning, although newspaper reports of a mere 10 miles radius are not unusual at the time.

It is to seek an answer to the various questions that arise when lightning and its effect on the airplane are discussed, that Arthur O. Austin, chief engineer of the Ohio Brass Co. of Barberie, Ohio, and consulting engineer for the Ohio Brass Co. of Mansfield, recently began a series of tests with "man-made" lightning.

The lightning-airplane tests are being carried out at the Ohio Brass Company's outdoor high-voltage laboratory, located just outside of Barberie. It is the most powerful plant of its kind in the world. With the more than \$2,000,000 worth of equipment available,

*The effect of lightning upon an airplane in flight is a subject about which very little has been said or written. At present it is still very much of a problem, and one demanding satisfactory solution and remedy, if the confidence of the air passenger is to be obtained.*

*In an endeavor to seek out the "superstition" of that problem, chief engineer of the Ohio Brass Company, Barberie, Ohio, Arthur O. Austin, is now conducting a series of extensive tests with man-made lightning. The nature of Mr. Austin's tests and the equipment that he is using are covered in a most interesting way in this article.*

artificial lightning bolts of more than 3,000,000 watts potential, measured to ground, have been generated. The equipment being used in the time of writing will make possible production of even more powerful discharges. A spark of more than 3,000,000 volts passes from the tip to the ground, and the range of such a discharge runs into the hundreds of thousands.

In carrying on the work, the insulation company is working in co-operation with Popular Mechanics Magazine of Chicago, which suggested the tests and has provided a Bunting KB-3 all-metal frame enclosure

as well as several other pieces of equipment. Other planes and parts are to be built by various manufacturers, and perhaps the Department of Commerce and other government departments.

The research has been thoroughly planned, in order that no major base of contention in the lightning-airplane question will be overlooked. Preliminary tests have been carried out with scale models of well-known nar-

rowcanted wings, caused the noise noise called thunder. Just what effect such a clasp of thunder a few feet from a pilot and passengers would have, is another problem upon which data will be gathered.

The ignition system, especially the magneto, is considered a vulnerable part of an airplane from a lightning standpoint. But the ignition is not necessarily the part of a plane that will first be affected by lightning. Tests on magnetos, starters and other electrical parts are being made to learn whether insulation is broken down, and what other failures are possible.

Several engineers and scientists who have studied the problem are inclined to believe that hot exhaust gases, because of their ionizing effect, create a path for lightning and serve to attract it to the plane. Mr. Austin, however, thinks that the gases from a plane in flight may become cooled so quickly that their ionizing effect is negligible. He is placing experiments on burning engines to learn the exact part which causes static. Measurements of the discharge strength of the air in the vicinity of a burning engine constitute the method of attack.

**T**HIS FINE HABITAT is one of the most delicate aspects of the lightning-airplane question. It is not yet definitely known whether a gasoline tank will be fired by a direct lightning hit, whether the fabric covering of a wing will be ignited at the point at which a discharge strikes, or whether the oil and fuel vapors in an engine carburetor constituting an explosive mixture, can be ignited through metal at a point of high resistance or through other action. All of these things are being studied at the Barber laboratory.

Examination of the structural details of planes in common use indicates that the design may be such as to invite a hit at certain points. For instance, it is thought that a bolt striking a tail surface may ignite the fabric covering, or may cause the control wires to

fray, and with engines, wing sections, fuel tanks, ignition systems, tail assemblies and other parts of full-size planes. Further experiments are being planned with full-sized airplanes, set up and mounted in such a manner that actual flying conditions are almost duplicated. In some of the tests, the engines probably will be running and the fuel tanks filled with gasoline, although preliminary investigation with smaller set-ups may prove this to be unnecessary or unsafe.

Problems to be studied are numerous. It is to be presumed conclusively whether or not an aircraft can be struck by lightning while in flight. Almost everyone has heard of the terrible effects of ungrounded authority declare that a plane cannot be struck by lightning while in flight. While, on the other hand, others of equal authority maintain that it can. Although records of this have not yet been studied exhaustively, preliminary experiments with models indicate that a plane can be struck, and that it can deflect a lightning discharge and become a part of the lightning's path as it travels from cloud to ground, or from cloud to ground. The accompanying photographs show this clearly.

But, knowing that a plane is struck, what is the effect on the pilot and passengers? Studies will be carried out to determine the probability of a shock to accompany an open plane, a closed cabin plane and an all-metal job. When a plane is flown near a charged cloud, it is in a strong electrostatic field. If a lightning discharge takes place, not necessarily striking the plane, the field suddenly collapses. Mr. Austin believes that the collapse may subject the pilot to such a severe electrical shock that he may lose control of his plane, temporarily at least. The passage of a lightning discharge through the air creates a vacuum. The air, rushing into the



Man near lightning-testing tall and leaning a wheel of a model plane

This reproduction camera is used for photographing lightning discharges. The camera is connected to a magnetic relay which is held by a switch on the side of the frame. Distances of 6 inches to 100 feet are obtained at a second. The shutter operates at 1/100 second. A data sheet is reproduced elsewhere.



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case. But it is quite certain that simple remedial measures involving perhaps a slight change in design and the application of only a pound or two of extra metal will provide complete protection. Similarly, other structural beams can be removed easily.

In almost every plane there are joints in the metal parts, and in most cases, unless the bonding is unusually perfect, the metal may be separated electrically. The passing of several hundred thousand amperes of current through such could have disastrous results, either through failure of the metal itself or by igniting surrounding material. It is almost certain that the lightning investigation will result in a development of better bonding methods, and their application by airplane builders.

But regardless of the exact nature of the findings of engineers, there is little doubt that much will be learned that will enable manufacturers, users and operators to proceed less in the dark than in the past.

The lightning hazard in ballooning is fairly well known, and several disastrous accidents have occurred to balloons. It was following such an accident that Ward T. Van Orman, internationally known balloonist, cooperated with Mr. Austin last spring to develop a method of protecting the passenger basket and possibly the gas囊 from electrical discharges. The resources of the outdoor laboratory were made available, and eventually a shielding system, consisting of copper cables suspended about the basket, was performed by Mr. Austin, and used by Van Orman in that year's moon. A similar method of protecting the gas-filled bag was worked out at the same time.

As for rigid airships, having aerial frames, there are several instances on record of Zeppelins having been struck by lightning. In some cases, there was a fusion of metal at some point in the skeleton where resistance was high. In only two instances were the airships set on fire when the hydrogen lifting gas was ignited by lightning. The loosely metal framework of a modern Zeppelin-type airship acts as a huge Faraday cage, effectively absorbing and dissipating the lightning charge.

The laboratory itself deserves some comment. It is the only place where outdoor lightning tests on full-sized airplanes can be carried out without the construction of a complete new laboratory. The plant is built on a portion of the model farm formerly belonging to the late O. C. Barber, one-time match king. Some of the streamers, generators, condensers and other equipment have been loaned by a custom-built building that was originally designed as a coke house. In the courtyard stood three of the largest transmitters ever built. Each is rated to 900,000 watts, and the three, when operating together, can produce a spark of a potential exceeding 3,000,000 volts. The units are arranged in three special perforated tile bays. The highest stands 30 ft. above the ground. From the high-voltage terminal a cage lead goes to a huge air condenser that is really a form of cage-type radio aerial. The charge is stored on the cage until the discharge to the ground (which forms the other "plate" of the condenser system) takes place.

For measuring and controlling the voltage, four pairs of sphere gaps are available. Each sphere, with its insulator, weighs over half a ton, and is 150 centimeters (nearly 5 ft.) in diameter—the largest ever constructed. They were made by an electrolytic process, copper being deposited by homogeneous molds. The metal is therefore nearly 100 per cent pure.

Then there are a number of oscillators, ranging in

size from 1,200 kv. down each capable of producing a continuous spark discharge, the longest of which is many feet in length. The laboratory contains the world's most complete collection of transmission line towers. These are used in almost daily insulation tests and investigations.

At one end of the laboratory area there has been erected a system of wooden poles, guys and masts for supporting full-sized planes during a test. A fixed winged airplane will be tested early. A grieve of trees to the north and west reduce the intensity of the prevailing wind, making more of the site less difficult. It is also necessary to have comparatively calm weather for operating the lightning factory because a high wind will blow the discharge to one side.

Adjacent to the laboratory is a large, level field in which the largest plane can land or take off. Dunes are being filled and suitable flags, a wind sock and other



Three transmitters are tested in the largest wire bays. Working together they produce artificial lightning at 100,000 volts per second.

markers placed so that the field can be used as a temporary landing area for the accommodation of visiting planes during the tests.

The research has been in progress for several months, and probably will continue through the winter. Conditions of weather will determine, as is conceivable, the exact time required. Indications are that many valuable facts leading to greater safety for the flying public will be disclosed.





# REGULATING Air Commerce

By KENNETH M. LANE  
Chief, Engineering Section, Aeromarine Branch  
Department of Commerce

**T**HIS PRIMARY FUNCTION of the Engineering Section is to assure the proper structural design of aircraft that are to be made eligible for license.

To accomplish this purpose it was first of all necessary to establish certain definite minimum requirements which must be met before an airplane could be certified as seaworthy. The original requirements, issued in October, 1927, as the "Handbook for Airplane Designers," were based largely on Army and Navy practices modified to adapt them to commercial needs. As a result of the experience of the Aeromarine Branch and with the co-operation of the Army, Navy, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and Bureau of Standards, these requirements have been revised and simplified. The latest revision, recently issued as "Aeromarine Requirements," covers ships' aircraft, dirigibles and propellers.

A separate section has been established for light planes—those having a gross loading of more than 3000 per hp—aircraft and gliders. There has also been established a set of requirements for the approval or certification of airplane performance data. The introductory paragraph of this section reads as follows—"On the premise that it will be highly desirable for the airplane manufacturer to know and to be able to adverse favorable performance characteristics of his product, the Department of Commerce will approve such data when the requirements specified below have been complied with."

It is interesting to note that as far as manufacturers has had the tendency to avail himself of this service.

As more exact data becomes available and as the competence of the Department is widened, further modification and simplification of requirements will be necessary. Fortunately for the industry, more exact data will permit as easing off which it is believed, will save that offset the increase in regard of certain requirements which is necessary to withstand unforseen experience. These data consist of records of tests made on commercial parts of aircraft, from factors for strength of air streams, etc., are obtained from the Army, Navy, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Bureau of Standards universities and technical schools, and to an appreciable extent from the airplane manufacturers themselves. Reports of accidents involving material

*For the airplane manufacturer who, in his own opinion, has not received the action desired once his stress analysis has been forwarded to the Aerodynamics Branch, the accompanying article should be of more than a little interest. It is the second of a series of six articles on the licensing and inspection work of the Aeromarine Branch, and contains authoritative information regarding proper procedure and obstacles encountered in the matter of obtaining that very much desired Approved Type Certificate. The third article of the series, appearing in next week's issue, is by Jesse W. Lanford, chief, Registration Section, and deals with the licensing of airmen and aircraft.*

fallow furnish the major portion of the experience upon which modification of the requirement is based. These are augmented by miscellaneous reports from inspectors and operators, and personal experience of the Engineering Section personnel. The Department is also indebted to the aircraft regulatory services of other governments, particularly the Canadian, for data based upon their experience with commercial sources. The study and correlation of all these data constitute an appreciable portion of the activities of the section.

**H**AVING established the requirements for airworthiness, it is the task of the Engineering Section to examine the data submitted by the airplane manufacturer to

AVIATION  
January 25, 1938

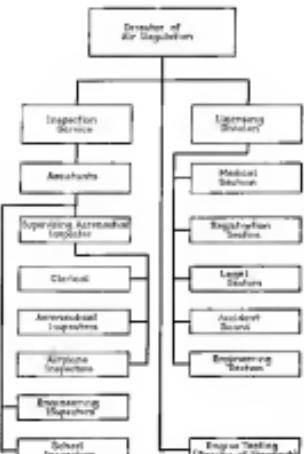
## ARTICLE II— ENGINEERING

determine whether or not these requirements have been met. The data to be submitted consists of a complete set of drawings, stress analyses of wings, fuselage, landing gear, control surfaces, control system and all fittings connecting parts of the primary structure; and the general specifications for the airplane, including a list of standard equipment furnished with the airplane.

The drawings are examined for conformance with the requirements and with good engineering and shop practice. An attempt is made at this time to discover any defects or features which may develop weakness or cause trouble in service. Most of these are not capable of an exact analysis but are detected largely by judgment. An very readily be appreciated, this is not an easy task when working solely with drawings, and it is not always possible to detect these faults. Fortunately this investigation is supplemented by a visual examination of the actual aircraft by the engineering inspector.

The drawings are then sent against the stress analysis in order to determine whether or not the structure analyzed is identical with that which will be actually built from the drawings. Strange as it may seem, it is no unusual occurrence to find that size and material called for in the analysis differ from those shown on the drawing.

The stress analysis is then checked for completeness, for errors of assumption, for deviation from approved methods and for mathematical errors. This checking constitutes the major part of the work of the section and at the present time requires the services of nine engineers. The time required for checking a complete new design will vary from one to three weeks. The longer time required is not always due to the greater size and complexity of the design of the airplane but is often attributable to lack of clarity of the analysis. The check reply to the question "Why can I do no capable appraisal of my design?" is "Have your data correct, complete and presented in such a form that they may be followed." Occasionally there will be found an analysis which would require for its verification the analytical efforts of a several men of a research soil and a crane would pause expert equipped with a snap band. It is obvious that such designer will have his own general



**Organizational Chart of the regulatory activities of the Aeromarine Branch. When analysis, inspection, repair and Appeals Branches are under direct supervision of the Aeromarine Inspector of Commerce for Aeronautics.**

method of attacking the various problems involved in a stress analysis and its own characteristic type of detail design. For this reason, consider as possible all data emanating from a given company or designer assigned to the same checker. His familiarity with the method enables him to check the analysis more expeditiously than a man who has been accustomed to a slightly different procedure.

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and another source of delay—in that it involves an interchange of correspondence and the preparation and transmission of additional data—in lack of completeness. Invariably, this applies to drawings as well as to stress analysis. In the case of the latter, it may be necessary to investigate the structure for one or more of the required conditions of loading, failure to investigate the strength of certain members or joints—that is, particularly that of fittings—or failure to investigate eccentrically loaded or curved members for the effect of combined bending and shear stress.

There has been a gradual decrease in the number of cases involving errors of assumption. There is still room for improvement, however, and it is hoped that in the course of time all engineering departments will become familiar with improved methods. This will not entirely eliminate trouble from this source. Analyses are still being submitted in which there is displayed a surprising

lack of knowledge of the fundamental principles of applied mechanics and the theory of structures. Many stress analysts seem to be willing to make practically any assumption rather than employ the theories of least work in the investigation of a reinforced structure. It is quite common to yield to the temptation to resort to a somewhat optimistic assumption in order to avoid the necessity for strengthening a member when an increase in allowable gross weight is desired. One analysis, following a computation which showed that, with a coefficient of 1.0, a certain strut was under strength, stated quite fraudulently that instead of a coefficient of 1.0 was insufficient, a coefficient of 1.7 would be assumed. As might be suspected, with the latter assumption, the strut would show a slight margin of safety.

**E**RRORS IN DESIGN are principally due to failure to follow correctly the procedures outlined in the requirements. Although it is difficult for the personnel of the Section to conceive of such a possibility, it may be that this is partly due to lack of clarity in the wording of the requirements. It such be the case, trouble from this source should gradually be eliminated. Where repeated confusion is found in connection with a certain portion of the requirements, supplementary notes will be issued covering the subject more clearly and in greater detail.

Although some improvement has been noted in late, mechanical errors still contribute largely to the delay in obtaining an Approved Type Certificate. This is apparently due to the fact that the few organizations have the understanding disclosed below submission to the Engineering Section. Such checking is, of course, not compulsory, but the manufacturer must bear the risk of the loss of time occasioned by such unnecessary expense and postponement of certification.

The error in question is of such a nature that it is apparent that the strength of the structure is sufficient or that the effect of the error upon the final result may readily be determined; no correction is required. The designer, however, is advised of the error in order that he may bear it in mind when, at a later date—e.g., when the first airplane of the type is actually weighed—he applies for approval of an increased gross weight. If the error is such as to require changes in design or where there are a number of errors so that it would be necessary for the designer to rework the analysis, revised computations are required.

When the engineering data have been finally approved, a transmission is to effect his note to the Inspector Surveyor requesting that the engineering inspection and flight test be initiated. In this manner, plans are made to utilize the maximum allowable gross weight, directions as to vibration, static and dynamic tests to be required, and remarks concerning any features of the design which should be given special attention by the Inspector.

**W**HEN the report of the engineering inspection is received, if the check and all of it is found to be satisfactory, the airplane is approved as sturdy and eligible for license. If, in addition, suitable manufacturing facilities are provided and factory methods are found satisfactory, an Approved Type Certificate may be issued. If it is not the intention of the manufacturer to produce the design in any great quantity, the plane is placed on a *Part 2 List*, i.e., planes eligible for license but not having an Approved Type Certificate.

In either case an engineering memorandum is written,

copies being sent to Inspection and Registration Sections. This memorandum contains a brief specification, including weight data, and remarks as to the serial numbers of planar eligible placards to be displayed, approved alternative equipment, etc. These serve as a guide to the eligibility of the various planes for which applications for license are submitted to these two sections.

The foregoing covers the processes involved in the issuing of an Approved Type Certificate for an airplane. The procedure is similar for the approval of a propeller except that a wind tunnel is substituted for the performance tests of the aircraft, and no stress analysis is required except in the case of unconventional designs.

Approval of engines is based upon actual endurance and flight tests and requires no stress analysis. The procedure is similar, except that the commercial engines which have already been approved by either the Army or the Navy are accepted by the Bureau of Standards. As a result only a slight amount of work on the part of the Engineering Section is entailed in the granting of an Approved Type Certificate for an engine.

At present, the only other parts or units, approved as such are propeller blades. These are checked for strength, including strength of attached fittings and for buoyancy. They are thus approved for use on any airplane, the gross weight of which does not exceed that for which sufficient reserve buoyancy is provided. It is planned to provide for similar approval of other standard parts as rapidly as test data and additional personnel become available. For the present, however, in the absence of such a blanket approval, each installation of such a unit is investigated for its specific application to the aircraft in question.

**T**HIS has been a steady increase in the volume of work engaged in connection with remodeling and repair of aircraft damaged in crashes. This consists of checking computations and examining drawings covering the projected repairs. If they are found satisfactory, the drawings are stamped with the seal of the Department of Commerce and turned over to an inspector. The latter assumes the repaired plane for conformity with drawings and for quality of material and workmanship.

In addition to the foregoing, there is a steady flow of general correspondence covering a wide range of subjects. Some of these, such as a request from an insurance company for information regarding the status of a particular model, may be answered by clerical personnel. Others, such as a request for enforcement of the method of analysis or the allowances and stresses involved in a new or unusual type of design, will require consultation with the engineering personnel. It may be of interest to note that there has been a considerable volume of work of this sort. If all these projects are carried out, we shall see some very interesting solutions of the problem of metal construction.

Although such a reference has nothing to do with a description of the activities of the Engineering Section, it is felt that this article would be incomplete if it failed to pay tribute to the spirit of cooperation exhibited by the aircraft manufacturers and designers. Differences of opinion are bound to arise, but as long as the present attitude of the manufacturer is maintained, there should be no difficulty in working as amicable agreement. For its part, the Engineering Section, hopefully endeavors to avoid the injection of personal preference or prejudice into its interpretation of the design.

## SURVEYING THE

By JOHN C. HOLME, JR.

# Airport Problem IN NEW YORK CITY

*The Second of a Series of Three Articles on the Important Question Typical of Most Congested Areas*

**T**HIRTY AIRPORTS have been constructed in and about New York. Unfortunately, due to lack of paved asphalt and to the necessity for their co-ordination and the provision of adequate facilities for transportation to central Manhattan, the considerations regarded as most important in the two reports which were the subject of the previous article. Those important points, however, have been given due weight in the selection of sites for others which are now being developed, or for which definite plans have been made. In addition, several of the more favorably situated fields now in use are being improved to provide adequate facilities for passenger transportation.

In view of the importance of this matter of accessibility, especially in a large Metropolis such as New York, and because of the tendency of many airway operators to ignore minimum schedules to their fields, a survey of the annual taxes required by various means of available transportation was made by the author.

The results of this study indicate the seriousness of the problem of making airports as effective as the public has every right to expect.

The oldest field in the district is at Mineola, near Garden City, L. I. One of the first successful flights made by Glenn Curtiss took place there as long ago as 1909. During the War, it was developed by the Army, and it remained a strictly military airport. It is now known as Mitchel Field.

Roosevelt Field, also located at Mineola, was transferred into a commercial airport after the War. The old Curtiss Field had been incorporated with it, and it now comprises 450 acres, making it the largest and probably the best equipped airport in the New York district. It is known as the take-off site for many flights, including those of Lindbergh, Byrd, Chamberlin, and Hawley. They are not easily accessible. Located at a distance of 260 miles by road, it is an hour and 15 minutes drive from

Central Machinery, via the Queensboro Bridge, Corona Avenue, Nassau Boulevard, following the avenue "Mineola, Fly Roosevelt Field," which has been put up by Roosevelt Field, Inc. Travel on the Long Island Railroad ends at the trip to Mineola from the Pennsylvania Station is 40 minutes, leaving approximately every half hour. An additional 20 minutes is required to reach the field.

Roosevelt Field now has complete lighting equipment, a weather bureau, Department of Commerce station, and radio installation. A series of hangars provide complete service, sales and trucking. During the winter months there is dense fog for an average of three days per month during the spring and summer, two days per month, and during autumn, one day per month. Each day the average fog occurs four times of day and frequently last throughout the entire day.

Virtually every line of aeronautical endeavor is represented at Roosevelt Field. An Associate editors several types of planes for sale, plant and master service, storage, taxi and joy-ride, and cross-country trips, the Curtis Aeroplane and Motor Company is immediately adjacent; dealers for practically every type plane have hangars on the part, the Fairchild Aerial Surveys headquarters is also in the field as is the American agency for Siemens-Halske motors. Several owners and operators of private planes have individual hangars on the field, among them Roger Wolfe Kahn. Chief in activity are the schools, the largest of which is Roosevelt Aviation School Inc., which has a fleet of 100 planes operating the field and a complete aerial line, joy-ride, and cross-country service under the title of Roosevelt Flying Company. Several aerial advertising units, primarily Blowing, Inc., Aerol Advertising Company, and Plate Speaker Inc., also maintain headquarters on Roosevelt Field. One of

the nation's largest distributor of aircraft, George Wernick, maintains two hangars and demonstrates a half-dozen varieties of planes on that port.

**Hanover Park**, 30 miles by road from central Manhattan, is another field which was established early. Consisting of 80 acres, it has long been known as the eastern terminus of the ice road. It is two hours and fifteen minutes from New York by automobile via the Holland Tunnel, Jersey City, Newark, Elizabeth Highway, Hoboken, and the Lincoln Highway. Trains pass from the Pennsylvania Station, leaving every Sunday on the average, and the trip is one hour and fifteen minutes by boat. The trip to the field is one hour and 45 minutes including a four-mile taxi ride to the field from the New Brunswick station. Hoboken Field is now controlled by New York Air Transporters, Inc., and on this site are located National Air Transport, Colonial Air Transport, Pan American, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Cinger-Tavel-Air, Distributor, a Weather Bureau station, and radio range stations. There are three hangars on the field and complete lighting equipment for night flying. Planes have experienced dense fog at the field two days per month during winter and spring, and one day per month in summer and autumn, during the past year. Fog usually hits from about 4 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The Newark metropolitan airport at Port Newark, N. J., has been developed as a result of the proposal of the Fuel-Flying Committee Report. It is the most accessible point west to New York's population. The distance is 45 minutes from Times Square via Canal Street, Holland Tunnel, and extension of the Lincoln Highway. It is 25 minutes from Canal Street and Broadway and 30

minutes from the downtown section. Accommodations for passengers on the Colonial New York trip are made by a company bus from Hotel Pennsylvania via Hudson tubes. The Lincoln Highway is to be improved, which will reduce the driving time from the field to Canal Street and Broadway to a 20-minute trip. Located at the field are: Eastern Aeromarine Corporation, Distributors Inc., Rensselaer Aeromarine, Stevens-Curtiss Wright Flying Service and Wright Motor Service, Newark Air Service, distributors for Travel Air and operators of a Flying Service, Colonial Air Transport, whose passenger and freight service is to and from the field on a daily schedule; Liquid Steel, Aircraft, Baldwin Aeromarine, Weather Bureau station; longer of Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and Interstate Pilots, Inc. There are two hangars under construction for Colonial and the National Guard in addition to the four operated by Eastern Aeromarine, Newark Air Service, Colonial and Standard Oil Company. There are obstruction and search lights. Transport operations were suspended six days in April, five days in May, two days in June, two days in July, three days in August, and seven days in September, 1929, due to fog, smoke or stormy conditions. Plans report that fog is greater in the early spring than fall and still less in winter.

A venture of the older airports in New Jersey is at Hackensack Heights, in the Hackensack Meadow area. It is owned by Teledyne Aviation, Inc., and covers 10 acres by way of former pasture. Hackensack is reached in 55 minutes driving via the 42nd Street ferry and Hudson Boulevard through Little Ferry and Hackensack Heights or approximately one hour from



The Newark metropolitan airport at Port Newark, N. J., occupies an area of 45 minutes driving time from Times Square via Canal Street, the Holland Tunnel, and the Lincoln Highway. The field is located in the northern part of the city, near the Hudson River and the New Jersey Turnpike. The airport is surrounded by residential and commercial buildings, including the Hotel New Yorker and the New Jersey Statehouse. The field itself is a large, flat area with several hangars and runways visible.

Times Square. It can be reached in 35 minutes of traveling by 42nd Street trolley, ferry, and two bus routes, or in one hour on the Jersey Central, or 45 minutes from Times Square via the Paterson bus line. The man from Liberty Street ferry by train to Hackensack Heights station, opposite to the field, is 45 minutes, with trains running every hour and a half. The eastern boundary of the Federal Airport in Campidea is located on the field. There are also a Wright Aeromarine Corporation hangar and the Teledyne Flying Service and the New Standard Flying Service at the Field. Two hundred and seven acres of the field have been developed and there are three hangars. There is dense fog an average of three days per month in winter, two days per month in the spring and fall, and one day per month in summer, with light fog nine days per month throughout the year.

Curtiss-Wright Flying Service, originally at Curtiss Field, Miami, has its main field at Valley Stream, L. I., eighteen miles by road from central Manhattan. It is a one-hour drive from Times Square via the 99th Street Bridge, Queens Boulevard, and southeast to the field, or 50 minutes from downtown Manhattan, via the Manhattan Bridge, Brooklyn, Atlantic and Pitkin Avenues, and Sunrise Highway to the field. Trains leaving every half hour from Pennsylvania Station or the Long Island Railroad arrive at Valley Stream in 32 minutes, making the actual traveling time to the field 50 minutes. There are modern hangar erection companies and the field is used for scientific instruction and Curtiss-Wright runs and charters aerial transportation service. The field has a total of 400 acres.

The Queens-Flushing Bay area designated as the Flushing Country Club has received much attention for its development, greatly increasing its accessibility to visitors from Manhattan. The area corresponds to area No. 2 of the Regional Plan and is at present the location for three major airport developments: Halsted Airport at Jackson Heights, three miles east from Times Square and eight by road, in 25 minutes drive via the 99th Street bridge and Northern Boulevard. The Flushing T.B.T. trans runs to within a 10-minute taxi ride of the field in 22 minutes, and bus routes from Fifth Avenue at 42nd St., and the Waldorf Astoria terminal, make the trip to the field in an hour and 20 minutes. The field is at present unoccupied, although 200 acres are being used by the Gates Flying Service for kept and taxi operations. It is expected that the airport will be completed next spring and other hangars in addition to the three present ones will be in use. With the completion of the officially proposed Throgs Neck Bridge and Boulevard, this airport will be readily accessible to airports in Manhattan and southern Bronx.



Flushing Field (left) (L. I.) the oldest airport in the district, resembles like New Jersey (center), and Newark (right). Photo by Wm. H. Miller

The New York Air Terminal seaplane base at North Beach, Queens, is the location of a proposed 200-acre airport development adjacent to the present seaplane base. The airport will be 35 minutes by road from central Manhattan via the 99th St. Bridge and Northern Boulevard or approximately 30 minutes from Times Square. The existing motor boat route from the 42nd Street East River terminal to the seaplane base adjacent to the proposed field will also be used for the airport. Via Flushing trains from Times Square and 72nd Street and Broadway, and taxi, the time is approximately 42 minutes. This trip will make in 24 minutes from the 42nd Street dock or about 40 minutes from Times Square under average traffic conditions. It is possible that in the future most of the new existing permanent and fully equipped airports will be too far from the center of population to be used for air transportation, but will be large enough and equipped fully enough to be very appropriately used for student flying, instruction, and other general commercial activities.

**The Whitehaven Auditorium at Ardsley, N. Y., operated by Westchester Airport Corp.,** is 25 miles by road from central Manhattan. It is a one hour and 30 minute drive via Bronx River Parkway and through White Plains and route 22, or one hour and 30 minutes from Grand Central to White Plains on trains riding every 25 minutes, the time from White Plains station to the airport by car being 25 minutes. Arrangements can be made by telephone for the company car to meet the train, reducing the time for the trip to one hour and 15 minutes. Barrett Airways, besides giving instruction in flying for Beechfield and Steerman planes.

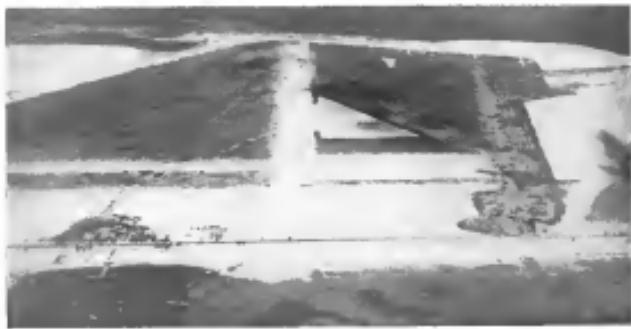
The field of Aviation Country Club, Inc., located near Hudson L. I., is unique in the respect that it is not intended to serve the metropolitan district passenger, or commercial operations. It is 30 miles by road from central Manhattan a one hour and 30 minute trip by auto via the

39th St. Bridge, Queensboro Boulevard, Corso Avenue, Nassau Boulevard and Motor Parkway or approximately one hour and 55 minutes from Times Square. Trains on the Long Island Railroad to Hicksville run every 20 minutes from Pennsylvania Station, the time in the field being 20 minutes. The 90-acre airport is the finest grass-covered field in this area. The club house offers every accommodation to visiting sportspersons. It is private in ownership, and is intended for Long Islanders interested in sport flying. The 40-plane hangar at present under construction will house all planes belonging to present members of the Aviation Country Club. The location is ideal, being near Frankel Rosenthal Field and other commercial flying organizations so that the student flying solo is not apt to be unduly disturbed.

Another airport designed for similar purposes is Intergarden Field at Massapequa, L. I. It is part of the real estate development of Brady, Clegg and Caldera, and is intended for private flying. It is 30 miles by road from Manhattan, or an hour and a half ride from Times Square via the Staten Highway in Massapequa Park or approximately. Trains leave from the Pennsylvania Station every hour, making the trip in 30 minutes to Massapequa station. A private concern operates a taxi and jitney-hopping service on the 18-acre field.

**T**HREE FLOWS BEECHCRAFT municipal airport is located near Barren Island in Brooklyn. The field is twelve miles from Times Square and is reached by car in 60 minutes via the Manhattan Bridge and Brooklyn Bridge, or 25 minutes by trolley from Borough Hall, Brooklyn. It is surrounded by the I. R. T. Northeast Avenue line and lies two to 68 minutes. Three hundred and eighty-five of the total 800 acres will be cleared with completed runways by next spring. Contracts for four-engine hangars are being negotiated. The post will have a seaplane channel on Jamaica Bay. The field is unusually free from obstructions. Roads, and the existing overhead wires along Flatbush Avenue are to be put underground.

The Sessions airport of New York Air Terminal, Inc., to be located in Hudson County, N. J., will offer



The Flushing municipal airport over Barren Island, Brooklyn.

a large, completely equipped seaplane base with seaplane facilities within 30 miles of the business district of Manhattan. Via the Holland Tunnel and Old County Road this location is 27 minutes from Times Square, and commercial passenger bases will accommodate passengers to the field. Eight hundred acres are being developed of the total 1,100-acre area, with 80 acres for terminal facilities. This was a proposed site designated by both the Fact-Finding Committee and the Regional Plan Committee as the Hedgeswood-Metuchen area. Parallel operations on this post will be next summer. The area is adjacent to the Hackensack River and is out of the Erie Railroad. The site has fewer days per year of down time than the territory immediately south of it.

**T**HREE AIRPORTS several existing flying fields in the New York District which at the present time have been undeveloped and are used by private companies for limited hops and taxi service. They include the Burma Inland Airport adjacent to the Floyd Bennett Municipal Field, the Brooklyn Flying Service located at Ave. U and Garrison Ave., and the Jamaica Sea Airport at Springfield Boulevard and Jamaica Rd., Brooklyn. In addition to the above mentioned land airports, there are the following landing fields proposed or under construction, none of which are acre enough to be metropolitan districts to offer a solution to the problem of a large fully equipped airport terminal for metropolitan air transportation needs. White Plains, N. Y.; Hoboken, N. J.; Somerville, N.J.; Morristown, N. J.; White Haven, N. J.; Somerville, N. J.; Hoboken, N. J.; Cranford, Union, N. J.; Elizabeth, N. J.; Come-Wright Flying Service proposes development of the Hutchinson River area designated as a desirable location by the Fact-Finding Committee and the Regional Planning Committee, and has an airport at Manhattan, N. J., under construction. The site for the proposed Jersey City airport on Newark Bay at Dovers Point, N. J., has been proposed for land and seaplanes. It is 28 minutes from Times Square via the Holland Tunnel and Hudson Boulevard, and 30 minutes by Hudson Tubes from 36th Street by automobile.



Intergarden Airport at Massapequa, L. I., one of the older airports in the metropolitan area.

Site 12 of the Fact-Finding Committee's recommended sites for the Queens-Flushing Bay area is now an undeveloped field being used by the Player Aeriel Driving School. The three hundred and five acres are to be developed by next spring by New York City Airport, Inc., for a land and seaplane port. It is 51 miles air-line from Times Square and 30 miles by road via 39th Street and Northern Boulevard. It is a 55-minute drive or 30 minutes on the Flushing L.I.R.T. subway plus an 8-minute taxi ride or approximately 20 minutes from Times Square. On the Pennsylvania Railroad it is 25 minutes in the Bridge Street station with trains every half hour. The station is two blocks from the airport. It is expected that a railroad station will be developed on this line adjacent to the property, making it 35 minutes from Pennsylvania Station or 40 minutes from Times Square.

There are, as mentioned above, three major airport developments in area No. 2 designated by the Regional Plan Committee for New York and its Environs, which corresponds to the Queens-Flushing Bay area in the Fact-Finding Committee report. The Hoboken and South Beach airports, 30 and 38 minutes respectively by auto from Times Square, furnish the best airports for central Manhattan in this zone from the point of view of accessibility, a primary consideration from most viewpoints. North Beach at present is fully equipped with seaplane and seaplane air transportation services. New York City Airport, Inc., to be completed on site No. 13, off College Point, will be a third readily accessible port for both seaplanes and land planes, as it is only two blocks from the 36th Street station of the Pennsylvania Railroad, a 25-minute drive from Pennsylvania Station. In the area thus terminating to site No. 14, the first choice of the Fact-Finding Committee, is again listed as an urgent proposal in the Regional Plan of New York in its proposed airport section.

In the conclusion of Dwight Morrow of the Regional Plan Committee faces the Ambassador to Mexico—Ed J. and also the Topographical Bureau of the Board of Estimates and Apportionment of Queens, that this site, known as the Jaeger Valley Marsh, could be filled by excavation from the approaches of the proposed Beulah Ave.-36th Street vehicular tunnel, which has already been approved by the Board of Estimates and Apportionment. This tunnel, to be completed by 1935, will provide an ex-

press highway, from 36th Street and Third, Fourth or Fifth Avenue, Manhattan, with no intersection on the express highway, direct to Jasper Valley Marsh. An automobile will make the trip in 15 minutes. There are no seaplane accommodations available at this site, however.

The Tri-Borough bridge recently approved by city officials, will provide a rapid means of transportation from upper Manhattan and southern Bronx to airports adjacent to Flushing Bay and Northern Queens. In area 3 of the Regional Plan, Pelham Bay Park and vicinity, which corresponds to the Bronx East River area in the Fact-Finding Committee report, there is the Caribbean River project.

To the question resolves itself into two issues. Will airports have to be constructed to the best of popular opinion? Or, can they be built or developed directly in the field? For instance, development of an express subway route on Long Island would make the larger airports which are now more fully developed and which have no physical obstructions, accessible to the metropolitan area, by virtue of buses within the 30-minute range by transportation facilities from the metropolitan district. Due to the cost of either constructing new express highways or developing existing routes into express highways, it is felt that the more practical solution for this whole problem is in the development of the Jaeger Valley site, which would be 12 minutes from central Manhattan; the extension of the proposed 36th Street underground vehicle tunnel to Manhattan under the Hudson River to the Holland Tunnel; the Seaboard airway being developed; and the establishment of deep-sea port cranes and rail cars either on the Jersey shore, the Battery, or Ellis Island in lower New York Bay, for seaplane accommodations, the existing piers being used as bases of service, ready and storage.

It is probable that both solutions will be used eventually, and it may be assumed that rapid transit facilities will be extended to the many existing fields before those which are being constructed or planned within shorter range become overcrowded. However, it will be at least a year before present projects for providing the Metropolitan district with adequate airports inside the 30-minute radius from central Manhattan are completed.

# OPERATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE

## Aviation Credit Corporation

*A Detailed Outline of the Working Policies  
of this Organization Which has  
Been a Valuable Aid in the Sale of Aircraft in this Country*

**R**EALIZING that the day had arrived when the "Time Payment Plan" had become a necessity adverse to the sale of aircraft, one of the more progressive groups in the industry formed Aviation Credit Corporation in the early months of 1938.

Characteristic of the policy of this aircraft group, a program of very searching investigation of problems was carried out before announcement of plan was made, and results to date seem to have justified the preliminary work done. During its first six months' operation, from April 1 to September 30, Aviation Credit initiated its factory and dealer connections by financing a very satisfactory percentage of total aircraft sales.

In order to secure the maximum service of trusted credit and collection personnel, an arrangement was made through which the administration of Aviation Credit's program was assumed by Commercial Credit Companies, one of the large national finance organizations. These companies have a record of 20 years of successful operation in automobile and similar financing, and numerous branch offices in approximately 200 cities in the United States and Canada, as well as offices throughout most of the world's civilized countries.

A very striking feature of this arrangement is the branch office network, by virtue of which airplane dealers may obtain local credit and purchase-of-paper service practically everywhere, and the necessary collection service is also nation-wide.

The real financing plan of Aviation Credit, which is perhaps as most important feature, is based on the following four theories:

1. The airplane dealer should receive the full list price of the plane he sells at the time of sale.

2. The seller of aircraft should assume sufficient liability on the paper to protect the Finance Company being forced to merchandise used ships.

3. The system of requiring endorsers is not practical in volume business.
4. The collateral behind the paper, i.e., the airplane, should be protected by insurance against physical damage at least.

To analyze on Theory No. 1, it would appear that the system of finance companies withholding a portion of the proceeds due the dealer when he sells a plane on time works too much of a hardship on him. The business of merchandising aircraft is far from being on a standard, economically profitable basis, and it seems evident that dealers usually urgently need every penny due them when they make a sale immediately upon delivery of the plane. It is being felt that the end of over-capitalization has crept into the aircraft industry; very few dealers are troubled with this cost. Furthermore the "hold-back" system was tried and found wanting in sensible financing since, prior to 1938, there is normally sufficient security in the rate factor to justify the 300 per cent advance to dealers selling airplanes.

Theory No. 2, that of dealer insurance, is a widely discussed one. There are two extremes that may be reached in financing, of which the first is purchase of paper by finance companies without recourse on the dealer. This method appears to be fallacious because the finance company has no photo, no logbook, no service and roads facilities, and consequently is in a serious predicament in case it becomes necessary to repossess a plane. As a result, the finance company will be ultra-cautious in the selection of the paper it purchases, and will be so timid that only the 100 per cent guaranteed transaction will be accepted. A financing service of this nature will prove to be little value to a sales assistance to factories and dealers.

The other extreme is for the finance company to require the dealer to guarantee out-and-out the payment of the purchaser's note; if an bankruptcy becomes delin-

quent the finance company can call on the dealer to pay the balance due, and is under no obligation to afford the dealer collection service in an attempt to extract payment from the purchaser. This system of guaranteed paper so often leads to the very evil practice of the finance company, eager for volume of business, purchasing inferior or poor paper purely on the strength of the dealer's endorsement.

There is a middle ground between these two extremes, and Aviation Credit has adopted the middle ground. That is the system of the Repurchase Agreement, which quite fairly divides the burdens. The finance company furnishes the legal, credit and collection work, and the dealer takes care of the merchandising of airplanes, should any be repurchased.

Under the terms of the Repurchase Agreement, the finance company must locate, repossess and clear title to aircraft before the dealer has any obligation. Then, the dealer is only required to buy back merchandise, upon which he can realize, and usually profit.

The finance company has a very serious obligation to the dealer in purchasing paper on the Repurchase basis, and that obligation is to exercise its best credit judgment to protect the dealer from loss without being unduly strict on credit requirements. It would be contrary to the general idea of the finance company to purchase a weak note just because the dealer is desperate, and is ready to repurchase the plane if repossessed. It is the policy of Aviation Credit to reject paper that has all the appearances of loss to the dealer, but the fact that appearance do not always result in loss (paper have frequently proved quite profitable in the dealer's possession), permits a certain liberality. It may be said in defense of the Repurchase Agreement that a repossession involves the finance company in more or less trouble and unpleasantness, and that they are less likely to purchase such paper which will go bad, necessitating foreclosure, and thereby seize the dealer's item. All circumstances regarding each

By L. W. MITCHELL, JR.  
Vice-President, Aviation Credit Corporation

*Financing of aircraft sales has, in the past, been used conspicuously by its absence. Little by little, however, serious attention has been paid to this all important item, with the result that today there are several workable and reasonable time payment plans available. In the development of these plans, Aviation Credit Corporation has played no small part. In the accompanying article Mr. Mitchell writes in detail of the company's policies and methods, and discusses the various problems relating to aircraft financing that still remain to be satisfactorily solved.*

individual transaction must be very carefully considered. Theory No. 3 concerns the requirement for the purchaser to secure endorsers on his note, may be briefly dealt with. This system has been found to be too onerous and cumbersome in other financing fields where volume business is involved. There is only a limited supply of endorses in the country, and their signatures are never taken in place of other security, such as insurance. Endorsees, however, have and will continue to have a very definite place in many airplane transactions, any way to strengthen credits is welcomed by finance companies and dealer alike. But it is becoming evident that the endorser system will not stand the test of volume business.

Theory No. 4 is the insurance requirement, which is frequently and erroneously considered to be a sales incentive. Aviation Credit feels that it is in keeping with sound financing practices that the collateral behind such note be protected against physical damage, and for that reason it is required that each plane financed be covered against the hazards of fire, theft, weather and crash. In order to insure uniform protection, afforded by known insurance companies, Aviation Credit places this coverage, and the purchase of the plane receives the original policy. The Liability Coverage will also be placed if the purchaser so desires, as a matter of fact, more than 30 per cent of the purchasers that have purchased through Aviation Credit have requested the Liability coverage, and take advantage of the very reasonable rates that have been processed. It seems to be desired that insurance rates be somewhat high, but Aviation Credit has been fortunate in its ability to secure quite reasonable rates for the required coverage.

Aside of the sounds of insurance protection for the article financed, there are two other points to be considered. (1), the great majority of responsible purchasers would buy insurance themselves to protect their

investment. (2) Aviation Credit assists the purchaser to log this lessee by including two-thirds of the premium cost in the note, thereby affording deferred payment on the insurance policy as well as to the plane itself.

Terms of Aviation Credit's retail financing plan are simple and more or less standard. The purchaser is required to make a down payment of at least one-third of the cost of the plane to him, plus one-third of the insurance premium, as the time he takes delivery. He signs over note, which is divided into equal monthly installments, 12 months is the longest note permitted.

IT MAY not be amiss to mention the legal problems that have confronted Finance Companies during the Aviation Credit era. These problems have been many and varied, and further complicated by a rather general ignorance of aircraft law, where such low costs and lack of precedent Aviation Credit feels that most of the legal tangles are over, and has been for some months doing business in all states in the country except one. It is now unfortunate that the statists of Pennsylvania are so drawn that finance companies as a rule do not feel safe enough safe to finance airplanes for retail purchasers resident in that state.

The Department of Commerce has been extremely sympathetic and helpful to finance companies, and a great debt of thanks is due these hard-working gentlemen in Washington for the assistance they have given.

Before leaving the subject of law, mention should be made of the hardship visited on finance companies by certain provisions of the Uniform State Aircraft Law. This law was formulated before aircraft finance had reached proportions worthy of consideration, and it provides that the cost of an airplane is directly responsible for damage done to persons or property by its operation. This provision forces finance companies to arrange chattel mortgages as security instruments; they would much prefer to use conditional sale contracts, which are by far the least cumbersome and complicated form of instrument. But there is just enough doubt as to how courts will evaluate the portion of conditional vendors to cause hesitancy in the use of conditional sale contracts, in spite of the very obvious fact that a finance company has no control over the operation of the plane it is financing, and cannot fairly be held liable for damage they may cause.

Therefore, Chattel Mortgages. This is the reason why Pennsylvania is excluded from retail operations, and conditional vendors might possibly be held liable for damages under present Pennsylvania law, as Chattel Mortgages are not recognized by the state books.

So much for retail financing. Aviation Credit has a number of other plans, which seems to be growing in popularity, with dealers desiring to purchase new planes from factories for storage or display purposes.

Dealers may obtain new planes from manufacturers or distributors by making a cash payment of 10 per cent or 15 per cent of invoice cost, and deferring transportation expenses and finance charges. Acceptances covering balances may be negotiated for one, two, or three months. These acceptances may be renewed or extended at maturity of deposit, upon payment of a commitment and further charges.

Finance charges on wholesale are extremely reasonable, and furthermore are related on a pro-rata basis in case of cancellation. If a dealer with a plane ordered in a 60 day acceptance in 30 days, he will be related

one-half of the charge. (It goes without saying that when planes are sold, acceptance covering them must be immediately paid in full).

Plans covered by wholesale acceptance may not be flown or otherwise demonstrated, as they are only endorsed by insurance against the parts of fire, theft and vandalism. Aviation Credit places this insurance for the full amount of dealer's cost, at a very reasonably monthly premium.

Insurance is placed for the full amount of dealer's cost, and not for the finance company's investment, or vendor's interest, only. It is felt that very few dealers desire more than 10 per cent or 15 per cent insurance. In case-planned planes go unpermitted. If the finance company fails to cover, it relieves the dealer of the necessity of buying his own insurance on his equity if the planes are.

Many dealers seem to feel that they should be allowed to demonstrate floor-planned planes, but as has been stated above, Aviation Credit is of the opinion that collateral behind paper should be adequately protected against all risks. Since no crash rate equitable to all dealers has yet been worked out for wholesale, no flying must be the rule. It would seem obvious that the only fair premium basis for wholesale credit insurance is an "hours flown" basis; it isn't fair to charge a dealer flying his plane 5 hours a month, the same premium as one flying his plane 30 hours. Until a reasonable plan covering this is evolved, dealers are recommended to purchase planes on the retail plan if they want to fly them. If payments on retail transactions are anticipated (in case the plane is sold to a retail purchaser), reasonable actions are made on finance charge and insurance premium.

IT IS characteristic with wholesale, Aviation Credit has a Flyaway Plan, through which a dealer may take delivery of new planes at the factory and fly them to his place of business. The planes must then be placed in hanger or showroom, and may not be flown again until the acceptances covering them are paid. Plans are covered by insurance for fire, theft, vandalism, crash, public liability and property damage for the duration of the flight from factory, at a flat premium rate.

Another phase of the industry in which Aviation Credit has become active is in the financing of flight training courses. Everyone realizes that there is going to be an acute shortage of pilots, and therefore a system has been worked out (and is a sound operation) to provide flight instruction in a limited payment plan.

For School Standard planes, as designed by students and one or more property-owner co-signers. Down payments ranging from 25 to 35 per cent of the cost of the course are paid to the school at the time of commencing the course, and the balance is paid to the school at rates by the finance company. Monthly payments on the note may be started immediately or at the completion of the course. Charges on flying school notes are low.

There are many other angles of the industry in which the finance companies will probably play as important part as they go on, such as financing shipments of engines and other material to plane manufacturers, erection of hangars, leases, fuel tanks, etc. It will be just as well for manufacturers, dealers and operators to work closely with finance companies, and avail themselves of the facilities offered whenever possible. Finance companies have contributed so largely to the success of other industries that they cannot well be ignored by aviators.

## GENERAL NEWS

HARRIS F. POWELL, Mass Editor

HIGH POINTS Fliers Vie for Racing Honors  
in the NEWS

## At Miami All American Meet

Among Winners are: Williams, Little, Jackson, Nash, Davis, Shahan, Knightley, Bridges

By MARINA M. PARKER

► **Streightest meet plane.** All American series run at Miami Ontario, featuring Williams, Jackson, Davis, Little, Nash, Knightley, Bridges, and Shahan.

► **of \$90,000,000 per year.** See also Aero Club of 1960 in report on planes, engines, and parts production. Total sales, \$636,000,000, up 15.7%. Advance over last year: About \$60,000,000 worth.

► **to Los Angeles.** Lineup check-up shows 150 exhibitors with 250 room facilities preparing to display 72 planes.

► **Lawn notable, more safety.** Annual accident report for 1959 shows 1,000 fatal accidents, half of which in corresponding period of '58. Lowest for '59, one today for every 1,022,000 scheduled miles, for '58 one to every 899,000 m.

► **700 km. off O.R. Islands officially.** Longest leg Sasebo to Iwakuni & 18 hr. 15 min. total time. Total distance 21 hr. 30 min. for unscripted visitors.

► **Old fogs drive away.** Louisiana Delta State University, formerly gone with Shell Petroleum Corp as Director of Aviation.

► **Transport planned.** Seventeen of 22 Arctic Patrol planes minus Seafire after several are broken out. Great Divide Airlines and Airline.

► **Mail by seaplane.** South of opinion of Postmaster General Brown who favors shifting route scale rates in mileage to replace system of pay by pound regardless of distance.

► **SMP says planes.** Aviation Corporation of America, Inc., based in W.A.C., announces construction of a new plant, of which is \$120 Kansas City-Louisville area.

► **Plant estimate.** Committee on Appropriations approves increase from \$13,300,000 to \$15,000,000 for transportation of domestic mail, foreign mail, and express. Total cost \$6,100,000.

► **Custer claims many records.** With Custer in Brugay, France, it is reported to have set a record for the largest number of passengers marks for craft carrying 500 lbs (1,000 kg.) load. They are: speed, 180 mph.; distance, about 2,580 mi.; endurance, 25 hr 22 min 48 sec.

**Ervil Williams** is an Oklahoma sharecropper who has built a house and a storehouse. Creation around a cabin in one of the stores.

## Chevrolet Goes With Martin

ARMING planes whose base performances during the war were outstanding were Eddie Williams, Greenville, S. C., C. M. Jackson, New Orleans, La., S. L. Little, Atlanta, Ga., Art Davis, Mobile, Ala., Dick Starkey, Atlanta, Ga., S. R. Biggs, Bradley, Ala., Harry A. Little Jr., Philadelphia, and Jack Bridges, Jr., Wichita, Kan.

Other winners were H. Horace Warren, director of aviation; Bridges, president of the Greater Miami Airport Assn.; Walter D. Bruns, gen. manager of the meet; J. E. Young, chairman of the executive committee; and Wilson A. Sow, Miami City Mayor, were among the prominent officials who made the meet a success.

The meet was flown over a 10-mile triangular course at the Miami Beach Aerodrome. A record crowd of 10,000 came with the winners following.

PHOTO BY

Dick Starkey, flying a Bird, won first prize money of \$100 in the opening event, a 50-ft. race for 600-3 Justice planes. His time in the race was 60.75 sec. Second place \$100 was won by Eddie Williams, Mobile, Ala., and third place \$100 by Harry A. Little, Atlanta, Ga. C. M. Jackson, Mobile, Ala., also flying a Challenger won \$25 for third place, while 12 contestants in heat races













January 25, 1939

## AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

West

**LOS ANGELES** (UPI)—A \$250,000 depreciation in buildings and metal improvements at Los Angeles International Airport has been made good by the Los Angeles Harbor Commission, which will be taken, it is understood, when and if After Field is moved the port of entry for the Los Angeles district. Allen Field now consists of a small maintenance runway, a 1,000-foot paved taxiway for emergencies, improvements would include the provision of additional runways, and larger hangars, as well as complete lighting for night operations.

Impressions of the construction at Los Angeles Airport, Los Angeles headquarters for the Walter M. Murphy Aviation Co., southern California dealers of Charles Wright products, indicate that the new terminal building, a 2,000-ft long and the addition of two hangars, giving the field a total of five hangars in use with a sixth now under construction. Pilot questions also have been provided.

Charles Wright, Los Angeles, has applied for a landing permit for construction of 200-ft by 100-ft addition at 9125 S. Western Avenue.

Permit applications have been presented for a hangar at 100 ft by 200 ft at the Miramar Airport, for the Cordell & Peacock Aviators School of Hollywood. It will be of structural steel and corrugated iron, containing 40,000 cu. ft and costing about \$12,000.

In Los Angeles, the 386 Market Street, San Francisco, Calif., is preparing plans for \$500,000 expansion leading to, as he commented at Alameda Airport.

John J. Sherry, Chatsworth, Wyo., was the low bidder for remodeling hangars on the small route between Spokane and Pasco.

Western Air Express has taken out a permit for a 1,000-ft by 100-ft hangar at 100 ft by 200 ft, 20th and Van Allen and New Streets, Los Angeles.

According to Emil G. Guddeben, Director of the Civil Works, a 100-ft hangar will be started during the early spring to finance a five-year development program for the Wisconsin-Jackson Municipal Airport. The plan submitted by the Leonard Manufacturing Co. calls for construction of one hangar for the expected requirements so that bids will be called for other plans from engineering firms that will be more suitable for development. The city expected nearly \$100,000 interest on the \$100,000 loan which will be forthcoming from two 2,000 ft runways 300 ft wide. Two years later it is to be completed in the spring and the necessary buildings are to be erected.

According to a ledger recently copied by Jerome C. Detrick, secretary of the Milwaukee County Park Commission, which lost control of the 300-acre Milwaukee Airport on Jan. 1, the 1938 budget adopted by the board of aviation improvements provides \$400,000 of

which \$250,000 will be spent for buildings and improvements such as surface drainage, curbs, covering of the 100-ft by 100-ft area of the current field which, as paid at \$100 per acre, arrived on the slopes during 1938 and 1939 departed. The number of arriving passengers totaled 1,734 and departing 1,696.

The new approach to Linden-St. Louis field, which will be hard surfaced and paved, will be 1,000 ft long and 100 ft wide, and the distance from the end to the field by at least a mile, has long awaited by the city.

Indiansburg has let the contract for erection of two story and basement administration building, 150x40 ft, and hangar.

South

Construction projects at the Tyler (Tex.) Municipal Airport, which includes an 800x700 ft hangar, a paved runway 3,000 ft long, 100 ft wide, and the grading and paving of the eight-way landing field will be completed by Feb. 1, Airport Manager O. C. Palmer says. As soon as the field is graded, asphalt paving will begin. A 100-ft by 200-ft hangar, of which Mr. Palmer's house is located, will be received. The formal opening and dedication of the airport will take place June 1 in the spring.

State Field, Mobile, Ala., one of the most modern airports in the state, will be enlarged and improved if present plans of the city officials are carried through. An additional plot of land adjoining the airport and belonging to the city will be leveled and grading for the city will be finished and the plot will be 100 ft by 200 ft and 100 ft deep.

Work has been started on the Greenville (Ala.) Municipal Airport, which includes a 1,000-ft municipal hangar. The field is located 3 mi east of the city. A 2,000,000 cu. yds of earth removed from the pumped hollowed the hole which is to be used at the rate of \$600,000 a couple of material per month. The cost at the material and grading is \$100,000 and the total of the expected \$30 per cuyd.

Central

D. T. Stevens, assistant radio engineer of the Aeromarine Branch, has announced that work on the Western radio range beacon will begin soon as weather permits. The beacon is to be located in the western mountains, already an aerial survey has been made and will be located about 1 mi north of the mountain range where the least 35-ft and all 60-ft trees have been cut down. It is estimated the station will be finished by July 1, weather status as to be located at Kansas City, Mo., meanwhile.

Centerville, Ia., at a special hearing Jan. 15 authorized the city engineer to enter into negotiations with the county commissioners for the second ownership of the state to take advantage of the authority granted it under recent state legislation.

Permit applications are in progress for construction of a 1,000 ft by 200 ft hangar, 100 ft by 200 ft by 100 ft, at 10th and Main Sts., Jones, Mo., E. R. Jones is city clerk, and D. C. Johnson, Jr., is city engineer.

Tulsa, Okla. will soon begin the construction of \$300,000 hangar at Everett Taylor Airport.

Locality Airways, 2415 G Street,

Linden, N.J., has let the contract for erection of an 80x100 ft hangar, a paved concrete block hangar at the municipal airport, constituent of the city, and work is under way.

Elliottwood (Md.) business men have agreed to build a 100x100 ft hangar in an area adjacent to the city and plans are under way for establishment and development of an airport there.

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The city of Brookhaven, Tex., will take over the independently owned airport, which will be used for the development of a city park.

Boundary, Indiana, and flood lights of the Taunton Municipal Airport were switched on for the first time Jan. 18.

Lake Wales, Fla., will soon have an airport for the accommodation of land and seaplanes.

## AVIATION

January 26, 1939

### Brown Outlines Mail

(Continued from page 111)

the organization to extend the rail and air mail delivery system, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Commerce to air mail and passenger lines covering the entire map of the United States would create an unparalleled service.

For the present it would make no difference," he said. "For the federal government to demonstrate its exceptional aid to agriculture and transportation routes . . . is a great advantage to the nation to share with the federal government the burden of providing and maintaining airways. My own experience in the air community are that adequate emergency mail, passenger and mail, and radio weather information, together with modern planes and expert pilots, all under government express and supervision, will make flying an art at any other rates of mail rates."

The Postmaster General is independently able to hold down by the Interstate Commerce Commission for the compensation of railroads carrying mail. The great advantage of the mail to the Government lies in the Government's function of compensating mail for weight upon cancellation for regardless of actual postage carried, thus a lower rate of compensation may be accepted by the contractor than the actual cost of handling the unearned income generated. Should the Postmaster General's suggestion be acted upon, no transparency rate would probably be provided, as in the case with the records, for the mail transferred from the post office to the carrier, due to the fact that the carrier would be liable to the carrier from the center of town and in the event of an exclusive rendered section, no endorsement flying will be performed in the future and a sign will be placed over the hangars, warning non-transparent planes to stop.

### Data Requested

#### By Aero Branch

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Aero Branch has requested that all airport managers in the country send their name and address to the Airways Bureau Section in the Post Office Department, the Division of Commerce, Washington, D.C.

At the present time it would be helpful to share with the federal government the burden of providing and maintaining airways. My own experience in the air community are that adequate emergency mail, passenger and mail, and radio weather information, together with modern planes and expert pilots, all under government express and supervision, will make flying an art at any other rates of mail rates."

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Mail, Oct. Nov. Dec.

### Bad Weather Costs Air Mail Poundage

WASHINGTON (AP)—Air mail to December dropped 4,612 lbs from the November totals, the Post Office Department reports. A total of only 61,689 lbs was handled during the last month. The decided decrease was caused by the worst flying weather in the history of the air mail service, which partially handicapped operations in almost every section of the country.

For the present it would make no difference," he said. "For the federal government to demonstrate its exceptional aid to agriculture and transportation routes . . . is a great advantage to the nation to share with the federal government the burden of providing and maintaining airways. My own experience in the air community are that adequate emergency mail, passenger and mail, and radio weather information, together with modern planes and expert pilots, all under government express and supervision, will make flying an art at any other rates of mail rates."

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Mail, Oct. Nov. Dec.

SANTA BARBARA (UPI)—The city will be able to regularize post of the T.A.T. Madras postal route between Los Angeles and San Francisco within the next 60 days, according to the Postmaster General. The route, which now consists of 100 miles of road and town, owned by Earle Drury, postmaster, will be made the basic local operation. In order to prevent property damage in the vicinity of the post office, which is within the Santa Barbara city limits, Drury will have to move the center of town and in the event of an exclusive rendered section, no endorsement flying will be performed in the future and a sign will be placed over the hangars, warning non-transparent planes to stop.

Mail, Oct. Nov. Dec.

Tampa—(UPI)—1938.

Duluth—(UPI)—1938.

Seattle—(UPI)—1938.

Long Beach—(UPI)—1938.

Portland—(UPI)—1938.

Honolulu—(UPI)—1938.





that even more radical improvements may be developed in the future. One feels that so far as safety is concerned the weakest point in aviation is the heavy loads placed upon human skill in piloting. It is to be that, given the nature of war and the

confined existence of gravity, this is a problem beyond final solution but the hope is that one intervening effort toward safety will encourage aviation to concentrate its efforts upon man and load.

—NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE

## New Volumes FOR THE SHELVES

### England's Air Defense

AIR DEFENSE, by Major General R. B. Alderson, British Army; Methuen, London, Grosvenor Sq., 1949, £10.00, pp. viii + 250.

Promulgating upon the complexion of war at Versailles, both allied and central powers set to work upon the prosecution of official histories of their various war activities. Immediately there were encyclopedic in content, save it is to observe, the histories of Germany that our own were correspondingly dull. Such works as Sir Walter Raleigh's Official History of the Royal Air Force were uniformly sparse.

It has been over ten years now since the end of the war and reflection is being forth a lighter product applied to the defense of our country against air attacks. Major General Alderson's story of the defense of London, however, is a notable exception. In the first place, the plan for its defense by force (he states it is London that then exists, is principally envisaged) is nothing less than a masterpiece now hence in style. He sets out his problem and carefully traces the initial stages of operations he commanded, and he takes a look with as great an apoply of creases between brows, anti-aircraft, armament, searchlights, home batteries and various other defense instruments as could be had.

He does much that is remarkable with perfect form and both friend and enemy. In the section on war bases in the home country he shows how far he went to prevent the German aggressors in prosecution of the bombing of London as well as one of the German commanders could have done it for themselves at the time. The section on the weakness in the application of that argument as they appeared from the other side of the base. He gives unreserved praise to the courage, skill and ability of the anti-aircraft commanders such as Matthey and Sprenger.

The story of the air defenses of Great Britain has much that is of interest to readers unconnected with the development of American war power although they have been closely connected with very this remarkable assumption. Mr. Alderson summarizes some of the things which have already

and encyclopedic intentions may lead to very real differences in the procedures of aerial bombardment here and in England. Confusion in uncertainty may confound them in any country.

He goes on to give a brilliant example of a plan of action that the army was assigned the role of protecting Great Britain's forces against air attack, while the navy was to defend the coast. London, he continues, was vulnerable and undefended and it was only after apprehension of command of the ground defenses that military corps were achieved. It was not until 1920 that a full army corps was formed. He makes no mention in any uncertain terms, and was able before the end of the ground corps, to be given by the ground corps, to be given by the ground corps were up looking for 12 German bombers that came well over London and not a single one of the enemy aircraft was shot down by the British pilots. In another year 30 bombers went on searching for 20 hours and managed to make contact with four of them, but without getting near enough for escort in any case.

He goes on to say that he only due to the situation and poor equipment of most of the defending personnel at that time —Eduard P. Morris, Editor of AVIATION.

## Abstracts and Reviews

### Plumbing in Aircraft

PURCHASE AND REHEAT, by Capt. A. F. P. H. Alderson, Aerodynamics Department Engineering, Govt. 19, 1939.

Facilities which will ensure comfort as well as speed and safety to passengers while in transport are becoming increasingly important, and are reasonably going to receive much more attention in aircraft construction than they have hitherto done. Agreeing with this very sensible assumption, Mr. Alderson summarizes some of the things which have already

been done along these lines, describes various types of plumbing apparatus which have been devised for use in aircraft, and urges specialists in plumbing fixtures to devote more attention to this subject.

With aircraft limitations imposed both as to weight and space allotted, most of the trailer compartments in airplanes built up to the present time have been somewhat primitive in character. At the end of 1938, however, a new type of portable fixture which is designed to hold the like are one of the novelties in planes. Xited alight, however,

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provides an attractive material and some excellent features have already been designed which use it. There is available a vacuum cleaner which can clean up the interior and hot and cold water fixtures of the Delfling type which weighs only 31 lbs. and which is used on the Boeing 305-passenger transport plane. Body wash has been devised which weighs only 10 lbs. Water bottle holding 1 gal. of cold water may be an light as 1.5 lbs, while a fuel vegetal tank of 3 gal. capacity, fitted with self-closing faucet, weighs 16 lbs.

Considerations of weight, together with government regulations prohibiting the discharge of waste, make the design of fixtures for airplane crews even more difficult. However, several light fixtures have been devised which are designed so that Mr. Alderson feels reasonably satisfactory. A cast of plated metal as finished in black enamel, with washbasin and soap dish, weighs 1.5 lbs. and each unit of Boeing plane, weighs but 10 lbs. With another type of installation, the waste water from the lavatory is drained into the sagger of the cistern. Otherwise the waste from the lavatory may be collected in a tank which is then carried in a cage by the clip stanchion from the propeller.

All forms of heating equipment described by the author utilize the exhaust gases from the engine as the source of heat. Most of the systems are simple. The central engine follows the order of the fittings, surrounded by a pipe open at the forward end to receive air and closed at the rear end to admit the gases through registers. These may be controlled with simple valves which automatically open a release valve to allow the heat air to escape from the rear of the engine pipe if it is not required for the cabin.

The article concludes with a discussion of plumbing and heating for lighter-than-air craft. Since most of these boats to date have been military types, which do not require much heating, they do not receive a great deal of attention. On the civil Zeppelins, Mr. Alderson says, passengers were frequently uncomfortable cold. The new British dirigible, R.101 and R.104, have specially designed heating systems which are likely to prove more satisfactory. Particularly interesting in the installations on the R.101, which employs gas, is the heating system of the Beardmore engine, prior to various radiators in the passenger gondola.

Passenger companies have found it easier to make expensive steering devices on large aircraft, especially on the basis of a single control rod on a slightly straight course. The relatively high speed of the airplane, Mr. Alderson points out, leads a much further in the need to use a rod of very slight diameter.

However, the author does not believe that the time has yet come for general use of automatic steering devices on airplanes. The weight is apt to be prohibitive, and the device would interfere with the normal operation of the aircraft. The rod should consist of a minimum "steering" rod which would be used in addition to the main control rod.

To make the problem tractable it is necessary to realize that the gravitational moment of deflection of the wing was independent of the wind speed, which was virtually equivalent to the deflection for the rudder alone of a horizontal "steering" rod which would be used in addition to the main control rod.

This would be of little value in reducing the pitch or roll moments, but the control rod would be effective in reducing the yaw moment.

The suggestion of a change of gear ratio to increase the distance of the control rod in nearly holding a constant angle of attack is also a sound idea, but other means for accomplishing the same result have been suggested. Major Oder, of the Air Corps, a number of years ago proposed a gear ratio of 100:1, and of any rate or two, so that the gear ratio is to be controlled by independent means and to provide a sort of automatic adjustment of the course during straight flight. We are not sure that any actualized test of anything of the sort has been made.

Working on this basis, it was found possible to use the gear ratio of the aircraft, which is 100:1, and obtain the landing strength curve for fair rates of the various light-weight wings (centrally loaded). Comparison of the compressive and tensile stress showed that the use of the gear ratio to provide automatic adjustment of the trim of the results of tensile tests way, under certain conditions, lead to very wrong conclusions.

### More Delicate Control

AUTOMATIC STEERING (Le Trans. Capt. Ind. Aerodinamique), by A. G. Green in L'Aeronautique, November, 1928.

If an airplane left a wide field of choice when it left the ground, it would be different. Particularly when an airplane is forced with the not very delicate controls of the wings to make continual sharp deviations from the original path, it would be difficult to keep the airplane within the limits of the field of choice.

The article concludes with a discussion of planning and heating for lighter-than-air craft. Since most of these boats to date have been military types, which do not require much heating, they do not receive a great deal of attention. On the civil Zeppelins, Mr. Alderson says, passengers were frequently uncomfortable cold. The new British dirigible, R.101 and R.104, have specially designed heating systems which are likely to prove more satisfactory. Particularly interesting in the installations on the R.101, which employs gas, is the heating system of the Beardmore engine, prior to various radiators in the passenger gondola.

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### Wing Flutter

THE FLUTTER OF AIRPLANE WINGS; by E. A. FRIED and W. J. DODD, British Aero. Research Comm. R & M. No. 1239.

Despite the past few years' extensive theoretical and experimental work on the subject of wing flutter, this report is a detailed account of that subject.

The essence of the flutter was first observed by model tests. Under normal conditions it was of a "harmonic" character involving both flexure and torsion of the wing and clipping of the trailing edge. The amplitude of the deflection of the wing was small, but could be produced outside of those ranges as a result of disturbances of the air near the wings. The critical deflection from which the range of flutter was no longer maintained changed with the angle of attack, but depended to a great extent upon the mass distribution and elastic stiffness of the wings. The amplitude of the flutter was, it was believed, limited by fatigue of the wing system and not to resonance between the wing system and some external mechanical oscillator.

Mr. Fried and Mr. Dodd, in the paper of flutter, as thought was made to derive mathematical equations for the motion of the wing.

To make the problem tractable it was necessary to assume that the gravitational moment of deflection of the wing was independent of the wind speed, which was virtually equivalent to the deflection for the rudder alone of a horizontal "steering" rod which would be used in addition to the main control rod.

stated. Having made these assumptions, it was found possible to derive equations of motion for the wing-airfoil system, which were used to determine the conditions necessary for stability. The aerodynamic derivatives were obtained experimentally on the wind tunnel.

As a check upon the work, the flutter characteristics of a light aircraft small model and a light aeroplane wing of 9 ft span, were measured from the data obtained in the tunnel, and compared with the observed flutter. The flutter frequencies measured and calculated critical speeds (greatest stress as the calculated values was 77 per cent of the observed values) was sufficiently close to warrant the conclusion that the theory will apply to the flutter of the larger aircraft and aeroplane wings.

The single flutter frequency indicated, however, that the prediction of critical speeds was impossible by the methods of successive iterations, due to the fact that, in order to get a full-scale aeroplane, the reliable estimate of critical flutter speeds for actual aeroplanes is unsatisfactory.

However, the theory permitted a study of the flutter characteristics of some classes. The object in this study was the elimination of flutter, not necessarily for all wing speeds, but also for all values of the characteristic of the wing system. The results of this study indicate that flutter can be eliminated for all values of the flutter mode if the transverse axis for which the aerodynamic coupling disappears, in the case of the flapping-torsion mode of the wing is a whole.

(1) All of the differences should be as large as possible. It should be noted that increase of a single difference may actually be detrimental; all measures should be utilized proportionately.

All of these measures need not be adopted in any single design, but since the theory allows play in almost all parts of the flutter of small aeroplane wings, it is believed that the utilization of the elements of the recommendations regarding the ailerons would postpone flutter to extremely high wind speeds.

#### Airfoil Characteristics

**AIRFOIL CHARACTERISTICS OF TURBINE FAN AIRFOILS** At High Speeds, By L. J. Briggs and R. L. Dryden, N.A.C.A. Technical Report No. 318.

AIRCRAFT propeller engines are now being designed to operate at approximately the hover condition; there is still some doubt as to the superiority of the general types. In order to determine whether operating in desirability, it is necessary to know the loss of efficiency due to the interaction of the engine with the airfoil due to the use of gearing. This report is of interest because it presents the results of an investigation to determine the loss of efficiency of airfoils at the various speeds due to the interaction of turboprop engines.

(c) The moment of inertia of the ailerons, and all parts of the control system moving with the

airfoils, should be kept small. (d) An appreciable part, probably rather more than one-half of the aileron area, should be located in the vicinity of the attachment of the outermost external wing bracing.

(e) The aileron motion should be directly coupled, that is, it should be caused by a device of the same lead-lag type, the use of solid friction being disadvantageous.

(f) The ailerons should be definitely nonchordwise aerodynamically balanced.

Transients indicated that a hinge placed at about 0.2 chord from the aileron leading edge would be satisfactory.

Group II.

(g) The mass of the wing (in the case of monoplanes) or of the general apparatus as working flow at low speeds, and just as no theory is available for the case of monoplanes, the mass of the wing must be distributed over the leading edge.

(h) The fuselage area should be close to the axis of independent motion.

(i) The transverse axis for which the aerodynamic coupling disappears, in the case of the flapping-torsion mode of the wing is a whole.

(j) All of the differences should be as large as possible. It should be noted that increase of a single difference may actually be detrimental; all measures should be utilized proportionately.

All of these measures need not be adopted in any single design, but since the theory allows play in almost all parts of the flutter of small aeroplane wings, it is believed that the utilization of the elements of the recommendations regarding the ailerons would postpone flutter to extremely high wind speeds.

the group varies only in thickness. The second group was similarly built upon the Clark Y section. The third was again chosen from the N.A.C.A. series, a primary reason for this being the relatively large maximum camber. The fourth group consisted of a flat plate, a wedge, a circular arc, and a semi-circle, representative of those used in the Army Metal Propeller. All airfoils had a chord of 1 in. and a span of six inches in length. The chord derivatives were measured in an open jet air stream 2 inches in diameter at speeds of 0, 0.6, 0.8, 0.9, and 1.00 times the speed of sound.

The report concludes that the fact that the flow at high speeds is of the same general appearance as working flow at low speeds, and just as no theory is available for the case of monoplanes, the mass of the wing must be distributed over the leading edge.

The results of the tests are used for full-scale propeller computations, but are of value only for comparing the relative efficiencies of the airfoil test sections.

The first T family was found to be more efficient than the R.A.F. family when the thickness of the sections (sections of equal thickness being compared) was greater than 0.08 of the chord. The former section measured under the same conditions, was still to the highest speeds, while the thicker sections showed a marked decrease in lift coefficient. The total lift suddenly decreased as the wind increased over a certain speed. At very low speeds, a marked increase in drag coefficient with increasing speed, the rate of increase being rather sharply at a speed well below the speed of sound. At high speeds, the maximum drag was constant, and the lift coefficient could be measured back to the last result. The maximum drag is often linearly increased, but the drag at high lift coefficients is decreased, and at very high speeds the maximum drag is also decreased.

\* \* \*

#### Floating Aileron Test

WITH TURBINE TESTS ON A MODEL OF A MEMPHIS WING WITH FLOATING AIRFOILS. By H. G. Klemm and M. E. Barlow, N.A.C.A. Technical Report No. 319.

FLOATING AIRFOILS consist of surfaces mounted in the vicinity of each wing tip and balanced both statically and aerodynamically about a longitudinal axis. They are hinged to the main airfoil so that they can rotate with the airfoil when the control rod at the aileron postion. Rolling moments are produced by raising one surface up and the other down, and vice versa to the present position. Negative lift, the tendency to roll, is reduced by the fact that the airfoil has two surfaces, for a given lateral setting of the link or wheel the rolling moment

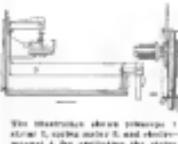
coefficient will be constant and the yawing moment will be zero for all angles of attack. This technical note reports the results of tests made to determine the effect of the floating airfoils on the induction and wing efficiency due to these uses.

A rectangular airfoil of symmetrical profile section was fitted with rectangular leading and trailing edges and chord at the wing. The axis of rotation of the ailerons was on the chord line 25.2 per cent of the chord back from the leading edge. The ailerons, and the root connecting them, were pivoted so that they could turn as a unit in small bearings mounted at each end of the wing. The test covered a range of altitude, ranging from 2 deg to +25 deg, and aeronautical speeds from 10 to 15 mph, and up to 20 mph. The quantities measured were the roll-

ing and yawing moments, lift and drag forces, and the mean leading angle of the airfoil.

In order to compare the effects between the wing tips and the ailerons, the rolling moment was not constant for all angles of attack, but only roughly so. The greatest variation occurred near the angle of maximum lift, where the rolling moment was not large even at that point. The yawing moment was not zero but they were relatively small in all cases, and negative in the larger angles of attack. The mean chord angle of attack at which the mean aerofoil position was more than that of the wing without ailerons (about 2 deg to +25 deg) and aeronautical speeds from 10 to 15 mph, and up to 20 mph. The quantities measured were the roll-

ing chord. The chart is driven independently by a spring-operated motor. A timing mechanism is used to indicate the cyclic pervasively to give an



Wing mechanism showing aerofoil C, chord A, center line B and chord support D for controlling the ailerons

indication of slatted tips. A log is driven at a rate corresponding to the aerofoil which is set independently. This data is read in conjunction with suitable scales.

## New Patents

### Airplane Wing Radiator

1,161,611. AIRPLANE AND RADATOR. THOMAS F. HARRIS, ALICE O. CHAMBERS, AND ROBERT H. COOPER, ALL OF OHIO CITY, OHIO.

FORWARD RADATOR projected from front of airplane to reduce air resistance. Each radiater is designed to be held up at an angle section as desired, fastened and tied at each section and each radiator at a while has an air slot shown for the purpose



Wire illustration shows forward air radiator A, compressor section B, and radiators C, D, mounted on C, and having an air slot E.

are provided in each blade near the leading edge. The purpose of this device is to prevent formation of ice on the blades and reduce the resistance offered by the air to the rotation of the propeller.

### Sit Propeller

1,161,612. AIR PROPELLER. ERNST KLEIN, PRAGUE, BOHEMIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND OTTO KLEIN, STUTTGART, BADEN, GERMANY. Filed Mar. 19, 1934. Serial No. 701,360. 8 Claims. 21-24.

The propeller has the advantage of reducing the air resistance of the propeller.

The propeller is provided between the hub and the trailing edge with a rubber extension of the hub. The hub is formed of a metal disc and having a rubber extension around its edge. The outer



The illustration shows hub 1, rim 2, the silent compression screw 3, and trailing edge 4, of the sit propeller comprising a metal disc 5, the rubber extension 6, and trailing edge 7 supporting plates 8.

### Bowed Propeller

1,161,613. PROPELLER FOR AIRCRAFT ALFRED G. HORNBERG, BALTIMORE, MD., AND ARTHUR G. HORNBERG, BALTIMORE, MD. Filed Dec. 15, 1934. Serial No. 711,185. 1 Claim. 12-13.

The propeller consists from the exhaust ports of the engine lead to a chamber back of the propeller. The propeller blades are hollow and have inlet ports connecting with the chamber so that the hot exhaust gases may pass into the hollow blades. Exhaust ports

of the rubber extension is intended to lie tangent to the rim at the outermost point thereof. This rim has a ribbed structure 10, and a ribbed structure 11, each of which is designed to engage a spoke of the wheel. Each locking device is in the form of a toggle which may be opened through



# THE BUYER'S LOG BOOK



## Curtiss Boundary Light

EXTREME AND TO NIGHT landing phases will be provided by the new type boundary light recently developed by engineers of the Curtiss Aeroplane Company and the Curtiss Wright Flying Service, 27 West 57th Street, New York City. The light is supported by a wire which is held in place by its own weight. It consists of overhanging steel, disconnecting



Curtiss Aeroplane Light.

the wiring by pulling a plug through a flexible cable from a weatherproofed socket. Breaking the contact causes the electric circuit immediately without affecting other lights in the same system.

## Reiff & Nestor Reamer

A NEW REAMER which is effective in reaming out recessed holes in rivets and bushings or any other single bearing job has recently been placed on the market by Reiff & Nestor Company, Lykens, Pa. Nos. 80 and 91 types have a sharp, tapered point which cuts through the metal of the bearing hole and the blades which tends to glaze surfaces on old bushings prevents shatter and saves the cost of filing. The reamer is ground with material plug double expanded, producing a true circle, no center edges and leaving a smooth, polished hole with maximum bearing surface.

A special feature is the floating pilot which holds up the work so selective alignment and adjustment is not required but the tool can be used on double and tapered, the long end being .652 under to .640 over standard size and the short end .808 under to .843 over standard size. The short end of the pilot should be

used whenever it is possible to insert it between the pilot and bearing surface. When reaming prior to riveting with the new No. 80, 90 or 95 reamers, the bearing pins should be used at all times.

## Course and Distance Finder

THE 10-Second Course and Distance Timer Corp., New Bedford, Conn., supplies for aviators an instrument having a new device consisting of a transparent canopy clad in combination with a tape suited to any desired chart. The tape has one side a 10-second timer and the other side a scale of 100 miles. The instrument consists of the crosshair of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and the older rule is left blank so that any scale can be used.

## Davis Air-Kit

A NEW AIR-KIT for passenger carrying airplanes has recently been offered by Bellanca-Stearns Inc., 57 Wall Street, New York City. The kit contains individual containers in unit cartons. Each container holds a complete set of instructions for different types of instruments appear on each unit carton.



No. 18 Air-Kit

This equipment is furnished in various sizes ranging from No. 18 to No. 40. The designation on the kit indicates the number of units which it contains. Special arrangements are obtainable to meet individual requirements.

## TRADE CATALOGS

**TRADE SERVICE.** A folder recently published by the Pfeifer-Magill Corporation outlines the bearing and bearing service of this century and includes a brief history of the early processes of bearing selection. A list of their line of bearings and brochures is also included.

**ARMED SERVICES EQUIPMENT.** A catalog on aircraft service equipment entitled "Airplane Service and the Modern Aircraft" has just been issued by the Helman Service Equipment Company. It contains a general survey of the present state of aircraft maintenance and describes methods, laundry service, electrical service, logistic washing, spray painting, fire and first air service and preventive repairing.

## Fairfax Aircraft Bearings

A LINE OF AIR SERVICE bearings for aircraft have recently been introduced by the Fisher Bearing Company, New Britain, Conn. These bearings are especially designed for the control systems of the single seat fighter aircraft, the single nose radial engine and double nose radial three and other types. Airplane wheel bearing rings have been redesigned and the fairings have been eliminated. The 5 A.M.C. and one of the full types angular contact design to provide maximum radial and thrust capacity against the loads and shocks of wheel service. Rings and balls are of chrome-molybdenum steel heat treated.

A complete line of bearings for airplane engines is manufactured by the company, including narrow width bearings for radial, ball, full type radial and angular contact designs. The radius arms and special high speed rotors for superchargers and starters. For instruments and radio equipment small, light, high precision bearings of standard types are available.

## Williams Wrench Set

THE NEW "WILLIAMS" wrench set No. 10A, U.S.A. is now produced by J. D. Williams & Company, Toledo, N. Y. consists of six wrenches held in a metal container by tension. Each wrench is drop-forged and made of chrome-molybdenum steel, chrome plated. The wrenches open and close automatically at S.A.E. Standard rates and may serve 1/4 in. U.S. Standard nuts 1/4 to 3/4 in. and cap screws 6 to 1/4 in. Wrenches may be removed without disturbing others.



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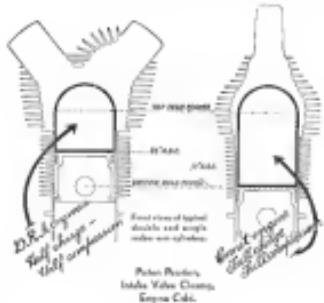
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lb. at.

Duplicate  
Thinner plates of plane  
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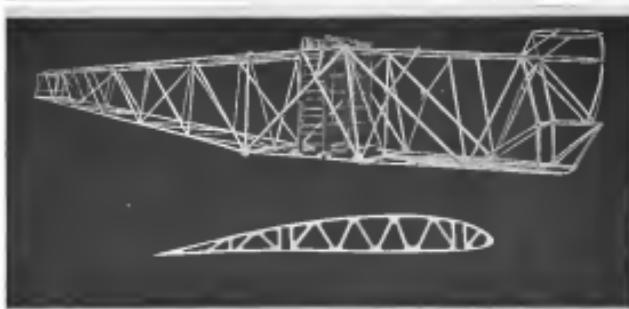
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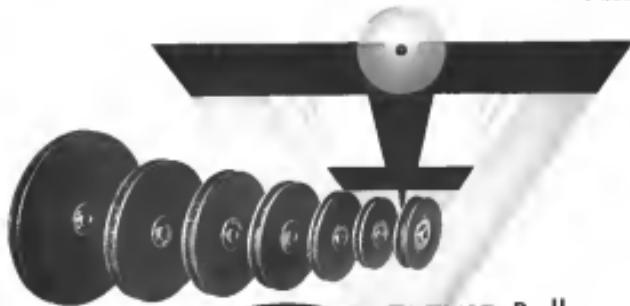
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